The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Department of Public Health

Bureau of Environmental Health

Community Sanitation Program

67 Forest Street, Suite # 100

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Secretary

MARGRET R. COOKE Acting Commissioner

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CHARLES D. BAKER

Governor

KARYN E. POLITO

Lieutenant Governor

November 18, 2021

Kevin F. Coppinger, Sheriff

Essex County Sheriff’s Department Headquarters

20 Manning Avenue

Middleton, MA 01929 (electronic copy)

Re: Facility Inspection – Essex County Correctional Alternative Center, Lawrence

Dear Sheriff Coppinger:

In accordance with M.G.L. c. 111, §§ 5, 20, and 21, as well as Massachusetts Department of Public Health (Department) Regulations 105 CMR 451.000: Minimum Health and Sanitation Standards and Inspection Procedures for Correctional Facilities; 105 CMR 480.000: Storage and Disposal of Infectious or Physically Dangerous Medical or Biological Waste (State Sanitary Code, Chapter VIII); 105 CMR 590.000: Minimum Sanitation Standards for Food Establishments (State Sanitary Code Chapter X); the 2013 Food Code; 105 CMR 500.000 Good Manufacturing Practices for Food; and 105 CMR 205.000 Minimum Standards Governing Medical Records and the Conduct of Physical Examinations in Correctional Facilities; the Department’s Community Sanitation Program (CSP) conducted an inspection of the Essex County Correctional Alternative Center on November 10, 2021 accompanied by Lieutenant Joe Dipietro and Sean Gallagher, Environmental Health and Safety Officer. Violations noted during the inspection are listed below including 19 repeat violations:

Should you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Text, letter

Description automatically generated with medium confidence

Shanene Pierce

Environmental Health Inspector, CSP, BEH

cc: Margret R. Cooke, Acting Commissioner, DPH

Nalina Narain, Director, BEH

Steven Hughes, Director, CSP, BEH

Marylou Sudders, Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services (electronic copy)

Carol A. Mici, Commissioner, DOC (electronic copy)

Terrence Reidy, Secretary, EOPSS (electronic copy)

Timothy Gotovich, Director, Policy Development and Compliance Unit (electronic copy)

Heidi Mora, Superintendent (electronic copy)

Sean Gallagher, EHSO (electronic copy)

Michael Armano, Director, Lawrence Inspectional Services (electronic copy)

Clerk, Massachusetts House of Representatives (electronic copy)

Clerk, Massachusetts Senate (electronic copy)

**HEALTH AND SAFETY VIOLATIONS**

(*\* indicates conditions documented on previous inspection reports*)

**Main Building**

**Nurse’s Office**

105 CMR 480.500(A)(3) Procedures; Records; Record-Keeping Log: Generator had no written documentation for blood borne pathogen training, documentation provided did not demonstrate annual training

105 CMR 480.500(B) Procedures; Records; Record-Keeping Log: Generator did not maintain a record-keeping log for waste sent off-site for treatment, missing August waste pickup

105 CMR 480.500(B)(2)(D) Procedures; Records; Record-Keeping Log: Generator did not specify off-site treatment parameters, total combined weight of medical or biological waste shipped off-site did not match shipping and tracking papers

105 CMR 480.100(C)(2)   Storage Area: Storage Area not designed or equipped to prevent unauthorized access, secondary container not being stored in manner to prevent unauthorized access in Nurse’s Office

*Storage Closet*

105 CMR 451.383(B) Fire Safety System: Facility not in compliance with 780 CMR Massachusetts Building Code provisions for fire safety, items stored within 18 inches of the ceiling

*Nurse’s Bathroom*

No Violations Noted

**Lobby**

No Violations Noted

*Control Room*

No Violations Noted

*Shift Commander’s Office*

No Violations Noted

*Bathroom (in Shift Commander Office)*

Unable to Inspect – In Use

*Hallway*

No Violations Noted

*Staff Break Room*

Unable to Inspect – Under Construction

**Second Floor Lobby**

*Deputy of Maintenance Office*

No Violations Noted

*Male Staff Bathroom*

No Violations Noted

*Assistant Superintendents Office*

No Violations Noted

*Superintendent’s Office*

No Violations Noted

*Conference Room*

No Violations Noted

*Female Staff Bathroom*

No Violations Noted

*Director of Programming Office*

Unable to Inspect – In Use

**South Side 1st Floor**

*Attorney Rooms*

Unable to Inspect – In Use

*Work Release Waiting Area*

No Violations Noted

*Work Release Office*

Unable to Inspect – Locked

*Bracelet Office*

Unable to Inspect – Locked

*Records Office*

No Violations Noted

*Reintegration Office*

Unable to Inspect – Locked

*Temporary Property Storage*

No Violations Noted

*Female Staff Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Light out above sink

*Male Staff Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Ceiling water damaged

*Offices*

No Violations Noted

**Intake Area**

*Urine Lab*

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Floor dirty under soap dispenser

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Paper towel dispenser broken

*Shake Down Rooms*

No Violations Noted

**South Side 2nd Floor**

*Hallway*

No Violations Noted

*Room # S201*

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Electrical outlet cover damaged

*Room # S202*

Unable to Inspect – Under Construction

*Room # S203*

Unable to Inspect – Under Construction

*Room # S204*

105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screen damaged

*Room # S205*

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wall damaged outside Room # S205

105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screen not tight-fitting

*Room # S206*

No Violations Noted

*Room # S207*

105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screen not tight-fitting

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wall damaged

*Room # S208*

105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screen damaged

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wall damaged

*Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Strong urine smell

*Room # S209*

No Violations Noted

*Room # S210*

Unable to Inspect – Not Used

*Room # S211*

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Ceiling cracked

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wall paint damaged

*Storage Room*

No Violations Noted

**South Side 3rd Floor**

*Hallway*

No Violations Noted

*Staff Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Toilet seat damaged

105 CMR 451.117 Toilet Fixtures: Toilet fixture dirty

*Storage Closet*

No Violations Noted

*Lieutenant’s Office*

Unable to Inspect – Locked

*Investigator’s Office*

Unable to Inspect – Locked

*Hallway*

No Violations Noted

*Room # S301*

No Violations Noted

*Room # S302*

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Outlet faceplate missing

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Outlet not secured to the wall

*Property Room*

No Violations Noted

*Room # S303*

No Violations Noted

*Room # S304*

No Violations Noted

*Room # S305*

Unable to Inspect – Not Used

*Inmate Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: One light out

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Sink dirty

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Caulking around sink was dirty

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Wall tiles missing near toilet

**North Side 1st Floor**

*Dining Room*

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Counter dirty around hot water dispenser

105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Window broken

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Spilled juice on floor under dispensers

*Ice Machine*

No Violations Noted

*Tray Room*

FC 4-204.113 Design and Construction, Functionality: Warewashing machine missing an easily accessible and readable data plate affixed to the machine for chemical sanitization

*Male Visitor’s Bathroom*

No Violations Noted

*Female Visitor’s Bathroom*

No Violations Noted

**Kitchen**

*Back Serving Area*

**FC 6-501.12(A) Maintenance and Operation; Premises, Structure, Attachments, and Fixtures - Methods: Facility not cleaned as often as necessary, rodent droppings observed under dry storage racks**

*Refrigerators*

No Violations Noted

*Serving/Prep Tables*

No Violations Noted

*Office*

No Violations Noted

*Dry Storage Closet*

**FC 6-501.12(A) Maintenance and Operation; Premises, Structure, Attachments, and Fixtures - Methods: Facility not cleaned as often as necessary, buildup of dust and mold observed on structure enclosing the ventilation pipe**

FC 4-501.11(A) Maintenance and Operation, Equipment: Equipment not maintained in a state of good repair, water pooling on floor next to wall adjacent to walk-in freezer (F2)

*Chemical Closet*

No Violations Noted

*Freezer (F2)*

FC 3-305.11(A)(2)\* Preventing Contamination from Premises: Food exposed to ice, build-up on boxes of food

FC 4-501.11(B) Maintenance and Operation, Equipment: Equipment components not maintained in a state of good repair, ceiling ventilation grill/cover missing

*Walk-in Refrigerator and Freezer (same unit)*

FC 4-501.11(A) Maintenance and Operation, Equipment: Equipment not maintained in a state of good repair, floor plate lifting from floor and not secured in freezer

**Main Kitchen Area**

*Office*

No Violations Noted

*Prep Tables*

No Violations Noted

*Loading Dock*

No Violations Noted

*2-Compartment Sink (Left)*

No Violations Noted

*2-Compartment Sink (Center)*

No Violations Noted

*2-Compartment Sink (Right)*

**FC 4-501.14(B) Maintenance and Operation, Equipment: Warewashing Equipment not cleaned at a frequency to prevent the accumulation of debris, mold observed on interior seams of 2-compartment sink**

*Handwash Sink*

No Violations Noted

*Steamer*

No Violations Noted

*Ovens and Hoods*

No Violations Noted

*Kettles*

No Violations Noted

*Slop Sink*

FC 6-501.16\* Maintenance and Operation; Premises, Structure, Attachments, and Fixtures - Methods: Wet mop stored upside down

*Ice Machine*

No Violations Noted

**North Side 2nd Floor**

*Counselor’s Office*

No Violations Noted

*Inmate Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Faucet leaking at handwash sink # 4

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Faucet leaking at handwash sink # 1 and 3

*Hallway (Next to Barber Shop)*

No Violations Noted

*Storage Room (Next to Barber Shop)*

No Violations Noted

*Barber Shop*

105 CMR 451.110(A)\* Hygiene Supplies at Toilet and Handwash Sink: No paper towels at handwash sink

*Room # N201*

105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screen not tight-fitting

*Room # N202*

No Violations Noted

*Room # N203*

No Violations Noted

*Room # N204*

No Violations Noted

*Room # N205*

No Violations Noted

*Room # N206*

105 CMR 451.101 Blankets: Blanket damaged

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: GFCI outlet cover damaged

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Light switch cover broken

*Room # N207*

105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screen damaged

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Wall damaged by outlet

*Room # N209*

No Violations Noted

*Room # N210*

Unable to Inspect – Not Used

**North Side 3rd Floor**

*Hallway*

No Violations Noted

*Room # N301*

No Violations Noted

*Room # N302*

No Violations Noted

*Room # N303*

105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Floorboard missing near window

*Room # N304*

No Violations Noted

*Room # N305*

105 CMR 451.101 Blankets: Blanket damaged

105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screen not tight-fitting

*Room # N306*

105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screen damaged

*Closet*

No Violations Noted

*Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Gap between the counter and handwash sink # 1 and 2 was dirty

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Mop stored on floor

*Room # N307*

105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Window does not open and close properly

*Room # N308*

Unable to Inspect – Not Used

**Basement**

*Laundry*

No Violations Noted

*Tunnel near Laundry*

No Violations Noted

**Maintenance Cage**

*Sewing Room*

No Violations Noted

*Maintenance Area*

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wet mop stored in bucket

*Maintenance Office*

105 CMR 451.200 Food Storage, Preparation and Service: Food preparation not in compliance with

105 CMR 590.000, interior of microwave oven dirty

105 CMR 451.200 Food Storage, Preparation and Service: Food preparation not in compliance with

105 CMR 590.000, interior of toaster oven dirty

*Maintenance Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Handwash sink dirty

*Chemical Room*

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Unlabeled chemical plastic pump sprayer

**Main Bathroom**

*Toilets and Handwash Sinks*

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Area around toilet dirty in stall # 6, 8, and 9

105 CMR 451.117 Toilet Fixtures: Burn marks on toilet seats in stall # 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8

*Main Shower*

105 CMR 451.121(A)\* Privacy: No privacy partition between showers

105 CMR 451.130\* Plumbing: Plumbing not maintained in good repair, shower # 15 leaking

*Slop Sink*

No Violations Noted

**Print Shop (off of Gym)**

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Ceiling access panel not secured in storage area

*Toilets and Handwash Sinks*

105 CMR 451.123\* Interior Maintenance: Ceiling tile missing

**Officer’s Weight Room**

No Violations Noted

*Female Staff Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123 Interior Maintenance: Top of shower curtain damaged

*Male Staff Bathroom*

Unable to Inspect – In Use

**Gym**

No Violations Noted

**Hallway**

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Ceiling damaged near light fixture outside male bathroom

*Male Bathroom # 105*

No Violations Noted

*Female Bathroom # 106*

Unable to Inspect – Locked

*Offices*

Unable to Inspect – Locked

**Garage**

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Roll down door not rodent and weathertight

**Anti-Graffiti Garage**

105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Exterior doors not rodent and weathertight

**Back Building**

*Classroom*

105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screens missing

*Office Area*

105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Window sill water damaged where AC unit is installed

**Living Area (Unoccupied)**

*Toilets and Handwash Sinks*

No Violations Noted

*Shower Room*

105 CMR 451.121(A)\* Privacy: No privacy partition between showers

105 CMR 451.130 Hot Water: Shower water temperature recorded at 850F

*Room # 1*

No Violations Noted

*Room # 2*

No Violations Noted

*Room # 3*

No Violations Noted

*Room # 4*

105 CMR 451.103 Mattresses: Mattress damaged

*Room # 5*

105 CMR 451.340 Illumination: Insufficient lighting, light out

*Room # 6*

105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Window broken

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Ceiling tile damaged

**Annex Building (Unoccupied)**

**First Floor**

*Dorm # 1*

105 CMR 451.103 Mattresses: Mattress damaged

*Dorm # 2*

105 CMR 451.340\* Illumination: Insufficient lighting, light out

*Visiting Room*

No Violations Noted

*Bathroom*

No Violations Noted

*Handicapped Bathroom w/Shower*

105 CMR 451.126 Hot Water: Hot water temperature recorded at 1000F

**Second Floor**

*Resource Room*

No Violations Noted

*Dorm # 4*

Unable to Inspect – Not Used

*Office*

No Violations Noted

**Basement**

*C-Tech Classroom*

No Violations Noted

*Library/GED Room*

Unable to Inspect – Locked

*Staff Bathroom*

Unable to Inspect – Locked

*Inmate Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.130\* Maintenance: Handwash sink #3 leaking at faucet

*Slop Sink*

No Violations Noted

*Inmate Shower Room*

105 CMR 451.121(A)\* Privacy: No privacy partition between showers

105 CMR 451.130\* Maintenance: Shower # 2 leaking

**Observations and Recommendations**

1. The inmate population was 70 at the time of inspection.
2. The CSP observed a combination smoke/carbon monoxide detector beeping, indicating low battery. The CSP recommends inspecting and replacing batteries as needed prior to re-occupancy.
3. The CSP did not observe an affixed data plate on the warewashing machine that accurately described the facility’s use of low temperature, chemical sanitization. The CSP recommends permanently affixing an easily accessible and readable data plate that describes machine’s design and operation specifications for chemical sanitization.
4. The CSP observed secondary containment of medical and biological waste inappropriately stored in the Nurse’s Office. In discussions with staff, it was determined that this container was being stored in a manner that allowed for unauthorized access for an extended period of time. The CSP recommends training additional staff in proper storage and waste removal procedures.

This facility does not comply with the Department’s Regulations cited above. In accordance with 105 CMR 451.404, please submit a plan of correction within 10 working days of receipt of this notice, indicating the specific corrective steps to be taken, a timetable for such steps, and the date by which correction will be achieved. The plan should be signed by the Superintendent or Administrator and submitted to my attention, at the address listed above.

To review the specific regulatory requirements please visit our website at [www.mass.gov/dph/dcs](http://www.mass.gov/dph/dcs) and click on "Correctional Facilities" (available in both PDF and RTF formats).

To review the Food Establishment Regulations or download a copy, please visit the Food Protection website at [www.mass.gov/dph/fpp](http://www.mass.gov/dph/fpp) and click on "Retail food". Then under DPH Regulations and FDA Code click "Merged Food Code" or "105 CMR 590.000 - State Sanitary Code Chapter X - Minimum Sanitation Standards for Food Establishments".

To review the Labeling regulations please visit the Food Protection website at [www.mass.gov/dph/fpp](http://www.mass.gov/dph/fpp) and click on “Food Protection Program regulations”. Then under Food Processing click “105 CMR 500.000: Good Manufacturing Practices for Food”.

This inspection report is signed and certified under the pains and penalties of perjury.

Sincerely,



Shanene Pierce Environmental Health Inspector, CSP, BEH