

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Department of Public Health

Bureau of Environmental Health

Community Sanitation Program

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| DEVAL L. PATRICK  GOVERNOR  JOHN W. POLANOWICZ  SECRETARY  CHERYL BARTLETT, RN  COMMISSIONER |

November 15, 2013

Frank G. Cousins, Jr., Sheriff

Essex County Correctional Alternative Center

20 Manning Avenue

Middleton, MA 01929

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

Dear Sheriff Cousins:

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 1999 Food Code; and 105 CMR 205.000 Minimum Standards Governing Medical Records and the Conduct of Physical Examinations in Correctional Facilities; I conducted an inspection of the Essex County Correctional Alternative Center on October 29, 2013 accompanied by Sergeant Dennis Laubner and Deputy Kathy Lawrence. Violations noted during the inspection are listed below:

**HEALTH AND SAFETY VIOLATIONS**

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

**Main Building**

*Lobby*

No Violations Noted

*Control Room*

No Violations Noted

Storage Closet

No Violations Noted

*Nurse’s Office*

No Violations Noted

*Nurse’s Bathroom*

No Violations Noted

*Shift Commander’s Office*

No Violations Noted

*Parole Office*

No Violations Noted

*Parole Office Bathroom*

No Violations Noted

*Hallway*

No Violations Noted

*Staff Break Room*

FC 4-602.12(B) Cleaning of Equipment and Utensils; Frequency: Interior of microwave oven dirty

**Second Floor Lobby**

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Floor tiles damaged

*Superintendent’s Office*

FC 4-204.112(A)\* Design and Construction, Functionality: No functioning thermometer in refrigerator

*Male Staff Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*Female Staff Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

**South Side 1st Floor**

*Work Release Waiting Area*

No Violations Noted

*Work Release Office*

No Violations Noted

*Staff Area*

No Violations Noted

*Records Office*

FC 4-602.12(B)\* Cleaning of Equipment and Utensils; Frequency: Interior of microwave oven dirty

*Female Staff Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*Male Staff Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Ceiling damaged

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Ceiling tile missing

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Soap dispenser broken

*Office*

Locked – Unable to Inspect

*Blanket Storage Closet*

No Violations Noted

**Intake Area**

No Violations Noted

*Urine Lab*

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Light fixture water stained

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Dead insects observed in light fixture

*Shake Down Rooms*

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Floor not maintained in good repair, floor paint damaged in both rooms

**South Side 2nd Floor**

*Hallway*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screen missing

*S201*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screen missing

*S202*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screen missing

*S203*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Light shield damaged

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Window broken

105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screens missing

*S204*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screen damaged

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wall not maintained in good repair, wall paint damaged

*S205*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*S206*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screen missing

*S207*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*S208*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*S209*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*S210*

105 CMR 451.331\* Radiators and Heating Pipes: Wall pipes not properly insulated

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Light shield damaged

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screens missing

**South Side 3rd Floor**

*Hallway*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screens missing

*Staff Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Ceiling cracked

*Temporary Property Storage*

No Violations Noted

*Investigator’s Office*

No Violations Noted

*Property Room*

Locked – Unable to Inspect

*Hallway*

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screens missing

*S301*

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Wall paint damaged

*S302*

No Violations Noted

*S303*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*S304*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screen missing

*S305*

105 CMR 451.331\* Radiators and Heating Pipes: Pipes not properly insulated

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Plaster loose from wall

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Wall damaged

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Wall unfinished, left in a work-person like fashion

*Inmate Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Sink leaking

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Screen missing

**North Side 1st Floor**

*Dining Room*

FC 4-601.11(c)\* Cleaning of Equipment and Utensils, Objective: Vending machine drawers dirty

FC 6-501.12(A) Maintenance and Operation; Cleaning: Facility not cleaned properly, debris behind vending machine

FC 6-202.15(A)(2)\* Design, Construction, and Installation; Functionality: Windows not weathertight and structurally sound

FC 4-602.11(E)(4)(b) Cleaning of Equipment and Utensils, Frequency: Mold growth observed on interior surfaces of ice machine

FC 4-501.11(A) Maintenance and Operation, Equipment: Equipment not maintained in a state of good repair, serving line steam table well damaged

*Dish Room*

FC 6-202.15(A)(2)\* Design, Construction, and Installation; Functionality: Windows not weathertight and structurally sound

FC 6-501.11\* Maintenance and Operation; Repairing: Facility not in good repair, light shield damaged

FC 6-501.12(A)\* Maintenance and Operation; Cleaning: Facility not cleaned properly, wall dirty behind mechanical warewashing machine

FC 6-501.11\* Maintenance and Operation; Repairing: Facility not in good repair, wall damaged near window opening to dining room

FC 6-501.11\* Maintenance and Operation; Repairing: Facility not in good repair, wall damaged near handwash sink

FC 6-501.11\* Maintenance and Operation; Repairing: Facility not in good repair, ceiling paint peeling

*Women’s Bathroom*

FC 6-202.15(A)(2)\* Design, Construction, and Installation; Functionality: Windows not weathertight and structurally sound

*Visitor’s Bathroom*

FC 6-202.15(A)(2)\* Design, Construction, and Installation; Functionality: Windows not weathertight and structurally sound

FC 6-501.111(B)\* Maintenance and Operations; Pest Control: Dead insects observed in light shields

FC 6-501.11 Maintenance and Operation; Repairing: Facility not in good repair, ceiling tile damaged

**Kitchen**

FC 3-305.11(A)(2)\* Preventing Contamination from Premises: Food exposed to dust, vent fan dirty

FC 6-201.11\* Design, Construction and Installation: Floor not easily cleanable, floor finish damaged

FC 6-202.15(A)(2)\* Design, Construction, and Installation; Functionality: Windows not weathertight and structurally sound

FC 6-202.15(D)(1)\* Design, Construction, and Installation; Functionality: Vent fan louvers not closing properly when vent fan is off

*Food Prep Refrigerator*

No Violations Noted

*Ice Machine*

No Violations Noted

*Slop Sink*

No Violations Noted

*Handwash Sink*

FC 5-205.15(B) Plumbing System, Operations and Maintenance: Plumbing system not maintained in good repair, pipe leaking under sink

*2-Compartment Sink Area*

FC 5-203.14\* Plumbing System, Design: Spray hose below flood rim on spray sink

FC 6-501.12(A)\* Maintenance and Operation; Cleaning: Facility not cleaned properly, wall and wall ledge dirty behind and under sink

FC 6-501.11 Maintenance and Operation; Repairing: Facility not in good repair, wall damaged under sink

*Storage Rack*

No Violations Noted

*Prep Table*

No Violations Noted

*Hood and Oven Area*

FC 6-501.12(A) Maintenance and Operation; Cleaning: Facility not cleaned properly, debris behind ovens

*Back Hallway*

FC 6-501.11 Maintenance and Operation; Repairing: Facility not in good repair, floor damaged

*F2*

No Violations Noted

*F1*

FC 4-501.11(A)\* Maintenance and Operation, Equipment: Equipment not maintained in a state of good repair, freezer unit not functioning properly, ice build-up on ceiling

*Walk-In 1*

No Violations Noted

*Loading Dock*

No Violations Noted

*Storage Cage*

FC 6-501.12(A)\* Maintenance and Operation; Cleaning: Facility not cleaned properly, vent fan dirty

FC 6-501.11 Maintenance and Operation; Repairing: Facility not in good repair, light not secure

FC 6-202.11(A) Design, Construction, and Installation; Functionality: Light bulbs not shatter-resistant or protected by light shields

FC 6-501.11 Maintenance and Operation; Repairing: Facility not in good repair, ceiling damaged

*Dry Storage Room*

FC 6-501.111(B)\* Maintenance and Operations; Pest Control: Rodent droppings observed on window sill and floor

**North Side 2nd Floor**

*Hallway*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*Storage Room*

No Violations Noted

*Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*N201*

105 CMR 451.331\* Radiators and Heating Pipes: Pipes not properly insulated

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*N202*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*N203*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*N204*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screens missing

*N205*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*N206*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*N207*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wall not maintained in good repair, wall paint damaged

*N208*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Ceiling tiles water stained

105 CMR 451.344\* Illumination in Habitable Areas: One light fixture not functioning properly, light out

*N209*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wall not maintained in good repair, wall paint damaged

*N210*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Three light shields missing

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screens damaged

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screens missing

105 CMR 451.331\* Radiators and Heating Pipes: Pipes not properly insulated

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wall not maintained in good repair, wall paint damaged

**North Side 3rd Floor**

*Hallway*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screens missing

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wall not maintained in good repair, wall paint damaged

*N301*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Ceiling cracked

*N302*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Light shield damaged

*N303*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Ceiling not easily cleanable, ceiling damaged

105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Wall not easily cleanable, wall damaged

*N304*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Wall not in good repair, wall paint damaged

*N305*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screens missing

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wall not maintained in good repair, wall paint peeling

*N306*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*N307*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.141 Screens: Screen damaged

*N308*

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screens missing

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Radiator pipes leaking

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Light shield damaged

*Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screen missing

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Wood damaged near sink panel

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Faucet control missing

**Basement**

*Laundry*

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Floor not maintained in good repair, floor paint damaged

*Tunnel near Laundry*

105 CMR 451.331 Radiators and Heating Pipes: Pipes not properly insulated, insulation damaged

105 CMR 451.130 Plumbing: Plumbing not maintained in good repair, ceiling pipe leaking

*Maintenance Area*

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Unlabeled chemical bottles

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Ceiling damaged, open ceiling in washer area

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Vent fan not opening properly when fan is on

105 CMR 451.361\* Extermination: Extermination conducted in an unsafe manner, open hanging fly trap

*Sprinkler Room*

105 CMR 451.331 Radiators and Heating Pipes: Pipes insulation damaged

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Light shields missing

105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Ceiling not easily cleanable, ceiling damaged

*Maintenance Cage*

No Violations Noted

*Sewing Room*

105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Ceiling not easily cleanable, ceiling damaged

105 CMR 451.331 Radiators and Heating Pipes: Pipes not properly insulated, insulation damaged

*Chemical Room*

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Ceiling tiles missing

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Ceiling tiles not installed properly

*Supply Office*

No Violations Noted

*Classroom*

Unable to Inspect – Occupied

*Main Bathroom and Shower* Unable to Inspect Shower – Occupied

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Ceiling vents dusty

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Floors dirty in all toilet stalls, cigarette ash and toilet paper

*Slop Sink Closet*

No Violations Noted

*Re-entry Office*

No Violations Noted

*Re-entry Dorm Room*

105 CMR 451.322\* Cell Size: Inadequate floor space in dorm room

*Re-entry Bathroom and Shower*

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Standing water observed on shower room floor

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Mold like substance observed in shower room

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Wall tiles damaged in shower room

*Officer’s Weight Room*

105 CMR 451.344\* Illumination in Habitable Areas: Inadequate lighting, several light fixtures not functioning properly

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Ceiling open and water damaged

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Ceiling leaking

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Standing water observed on floor near ceiling leak

105 CMR 451.331\* Radiators and Heating Pipes: Pipes not properly insulated

*Female Staff Locker Room*

No Violations Noted

*Male Staff Locker Room*

No Violations Noted

*Gym*

105 CMR 451.344\* Illumination in Habitable Areas: Inadequate lighting, several light fixtures not functioning properly

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Several light shields missing and loose

*Bathroom 105*

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Light shield missing

105 CMR 451.130\* Plumbing: Plumbing not maintained in good repair, faucet leaking

105 CMR 451.126 Hot Water: Hot water temperature recorded at 790F

*Bathroom 106*

105 CMR 451.126\* Hot Water: Hot water temperature recorded at 790F

*Barber Shop*

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Several ceiling tiles missing

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Light shield missing

*Car Wash Garage*

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

**Back Building**

*TV and Common Area*

No Violations Noted

*Dorm 1*

105 CMR 451.344 Illumination in Habitable Areas: One light fixture not functioning properly

*Dorm 2*

No Violations Noted

*Dorm 3*

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Light shield missing

*Dorm 4*

105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Ceiling tile damaged

*Dorm 5*

No Violations Noted

*Dorm 6*

No Violations Noted

*Classroom*

No Violations Noted

*TV and Common Area (Back Area)*

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

*Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Vent cover missing in shower area

**Annex Building**

**First Floor**

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

*Dorm 1*

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screens damaged

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Wall not maintained in good repair, wall paint damaged

*Dorm 2*

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screens not installed properly

105 CMR 451.344\* Illumination in Habitable Areas: Inadequate lighting, one light fixture not functioning properly

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Wall damaged

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Ceiling fans dirty

105 CMR 451.344\* Illumination in Habitable Areas: One light fixture not functioning properly, light out

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screen damaged

*Visiting Room*

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screens missing

*Visitor’s Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Soap dispenser broken

**Second Floor**

*Dorm 3*

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screens damaged

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

*Dorm 4*

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screens damaged

105 CMR 451.141\* Screens: Screens missing

105 CMR 451.350\* Structural Maintenance: Windows not weathertight or structurally sound

105 CMR 451.353\* Interior Maintenance: Light shields damaged

105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Window broken

**Basement**

*Counselor’s Office*

FC 4-204.112(A)\* Design and Construction, Functionality: No functioning thermometer in top refrigerator

105 CMR 451.353 Interior Maintenance: Light shields missing

*Female Staff Bathroom*

No Violations Noted

*Inmate Bathroom*

105 CMR 451.123\* Maintenance: Soap scum on floor in shower room

105 CMR 451.130 Plumbing: Plumbing not maintained in good repair, shower head missing on   
shower # 11

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Shower # 11 leaking

105 CMR 451.123 Maintenance: Sink # 1 not working

*GED Room*

105 CMR 451.350 Structural Maintenance: Wall not easily cleanable, wall damaged near computers

**Observations and Recommendations**

1. The inmate count was 350 at the time of inspection.
2. The labeling system of the spray bottles is unclear as to what contents the bottle holds in the Maintenance Area in the Basement of the Main Building. The Department recommends creating a clear labeling system e.g. Sanitizer/Window Cleaner that more easily identifies what contents each bottle holds.
3. During the inspection, it was indicated that there was a waiver in place with the Department for the gang showers throughout the facility. The Department would appreciate receiving a copy of said waiver.

This facility does not comply with the Department’s Regulations cited above. In accordance with 105 CMR 451.404, please indicate next to each entry on the inspection report a plan of correction. Said plan of correction must be submitted within ten working days of receiving this report and should detail the specific steps that will be taken and the date of expected compliance. The plan of correction should be 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 please visit the Food Protection website at [www.mass.gov/dph/fpp](http://www.mass.gov/dph/fpp) and click on “Food Protection Regulations”. Then under “Retail” click “105 CMR 590.000 - State Sanitary Code Chapter X – Minimum Sanitation Standards for Food Establishments” and “[1999 Food Code](http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/%7Edms/fc99-toc.html)”.

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

Sincerely,

Marian Robertson

Environmental Health Inspector, CSP, BEH

cc: Suzanne K. Condon, Associate Commissioner, Director, BEH

Steven Hughes, Director, CSP, BEH

John W. Polanowicz, Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Luis S. Spencer, Commissioner, DOC

Joseph A. Furnari II, Superintendent

Peter M. Blanchette, Bldg. Comm./Agent to HD, Lawrence Health Department

Clerk, Massachusetts House of Representatives

Clerk, Massachusetts Senate

Andrea Cabral, Secretary, EOPS