

GLENN DYER DETENTION FACILITY INSPECTION

INTRODUCTION

On November 7, 2017, the Alameda County Grand Jury inspected the Glenn Dyer Detention Facility, located adjacent to the Alameda County Courthouse at 550 - 6th Street in Oakland, and operated by the Alameda County Sheriff's Office (ACSO). Prior to the inspection of the facility, the Grand Jury met with the management team of the jail, including the nursing supervisor.

INSPECTION

Glenn Dyer is a 20-level, 234,000 square-foot, maximum-security lockup. The facility provides booking, intake, and custodial services for all of Alameda County, but particularly the cities of Alameda, Berkeley, Emeryville, and Piedmont; it serves as the off-street booking facility for all male north county prisoners. The jail also books persons arrested by the California Highway Patrol and, under a contract with the U.S Marshal Service, houses many federal prisoners.

The average daily inmate population of the jail is 400, with a maximum capacity of 834 male prisoners. (The jail formerly held female prisoners, but after a major program change regarding rape prevention several years ago, all women and self-identified transgender women and men are sent to Santa Rita Jail.) Glenn

The Glenn Dyer facility, while showing some signs of age, appeared to be clean, well-maintained, and in good operating condition. The Grand Jury observed no security issues that are not in the process of being addressed.

Dyer contains 576 individual cells in housing pods, and two cells on a medical floor. ACSO staff estimate that county and city inmates stay for an average of 90 days, while federal detainees could be housed for years.

The jail is staffed by 81 deputies, 41 technicians, and 12 civilian employees. Technicians and civilian employees have no direct inmate contact.

Physical Plant

Opened in 1984, the building contains six double-level housing floors, each with six housing pods per floor, and 16 cells per pod. Although the facility is incredibly clean, the structure shows

expected signs of aging. With no room in an urban setting for a recreation yard on the facility grounds, there are recreation facilities on the roof of the jail.

Glenn Dyer is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, the American Correctional Association, and the National Commission on Correctional Health Care. The California Board of State and Community Corrections and the Alameda County Health Department also inspect the jail annually.

Health Services

Like Santa Rita (Alameda County's main jail in Dublin), the Glenn Dyer clinic/hospital is staffed by the California Forensic Medical Group, with mental health services provided by Adult Forensic Medical Health. Glenn Dyer has one full-time doctor, one nurse practitioner, one dentist, one full-time x-ray technician, and one psychiatrist on call. The nursing staff is divided into three shifts of three to five nurses per shift. No inmates are kept overnight in the medical unit. The Oakland facility maintains a contract with Royal Ambulance for non-emergency medical transfers. Patients with serious medical or mental health problems are transported to Santa Rita, or, in emergencies, to Highland or John George Hospitals.

The jail admits many prisoners going through withdrawal from alcohol or opiates. Severe cases are transferred directly to the hospital. Active detoxification is handled at Santa Rita jail, and prisoners on methadone maintenance are also transferred there.

Disabled or suicidal inmates are transferred to either John George or Santa Rita jail. For the one or two hours a suicidal detainee might be held at Glenn Dyer before transfer, deputy sheriffs begin a written log and keep close watch over the prisoner.

Discipline and Security

During booking, all personal items are taken and logged on a property receipt that is signed by and given to the prisoner. Only the property technician and the booking deputy have access to prisoner property before it is safely stored, until the prisoner is released or transferred.

Inmates at Glenn Dyer are provided with a disciplinary policy handbook that contains in-custody rules, and outlines the consequences for violating those rules (e.g., a loss of jail privileges such as commissary or time with visitors). The facility policy and procedures manual is also accessible

online. Deputies write disciplinary reports that are sent up the chain of command for review. An established process exists for prisoners to contest the reports. The disciplinary process works quickly, typically taking about three days. A database, which is maintained by ACSO, tracks the history for each prisoner.

When Glenn Dyer was built in 1984, it did not include ports in cell doors that allow prisoners to be handcuffed before the door is opened. Those are now being gradually installed. The ports are especially helpful for securing high-risk prisoners.

All keys for the jail are stored in a central key locker that was recently changed to a biometric access system. As a result, all keys are accounted for and monitored.

Each cell has an emergency button, and there is an intercom from the pods to the monitoring station.

Glenn Dyer houses a significant number of gang-affiliated prisoners – about 50% of the total inmate population – who are housed separately from prisoners not in gangs.

At the time of the Grand Jury's inspection, 81 prisoners (19% of the population) were housed in administrative segregation units due to violent incidents in the jail. Administrative segregation units are cells designed to keep individuals housed separately from other prisoners for their own or others' safety.

All guns are stored in lockers outside the prisoner area, locked and out of prisoner reach. Tasers and pepper spray are permitted only within the prisoner areas of the jail. Batons are also maintained within the jail inside locked storage areas, but are accessed only in emergencies. Staff reported that Tasers seldom have to be used, as the mere act of withdrawing them from holsters deters inappropriate behavior.

Uniformed staff wear body cameras that operate on a continuous loop. When any camera is activated, it automatically records the previous 30 seconds. Activation of one camera also activates those worn by other staff in the area. Turning off a Taser safety also activates cameras in that area.

Currently, the jail has 24/7 central video monitoring of all entries and exits, with visual inspections by jail staff of the living quarters. The jail is in the process of installing monitoring

cameras throughout the facility, including within pods; installation was expected to be complete before year's end.

Entertainment, Visitation, and Food Service

Last year, the Grand Jury learned about a trial program at Santa Rita in which prisoners were assigned phone-enabled tablet computers, enabling them to make outside recorded calls at their own expense, and access a variety of entertainment features. Staff reported that program had a positive effect on prisoner behavior, and was scheduled for expansion. The Grand Jury learned that Glenn Dyer has no current plan to institute that program, as it would require substantial expensive infrastructure upgrades in the aging Oakland jail.

Glenn Dyer, however, has successfully instituted a tablet-based Inmate eDiscovery Program for federal prisoners that allows them digital access to evidence and documents in their legal cases. By law, inmates are entitled to access their case files. Previously, evidence was stored in boxes of hard copies that required significant storage space; staff considers the electronic access program to be a major improvement.

Inmates are allowed face-to-face visits for one hour each week. In August 2017 a program of video visits began, with hour-and-a-quarter visits allowed weekly. These video visits are operated by an outside for-profit company. Since August, staff has measured a 30% increase in the average number of visits the inmates receive, but as of yet there are no statistics on whether the increase has resulted in behavioral improvements. There are also four separate attorney contact visiting rooms.

All laundry and cooking is done at Santa Rita jail in Dublin, and shipped to Glenn Dyer. Aramark is the outside company for food vending. Glenn Dyer jail maintains a stock of three days of food and supplies in the event of an emergency or natural disaster.

Special diets are accommodated, and food is available 24/7 for new intakes.

The food service and food storage facilities were spotlessly clean. While there was no evidence of scat or rodent intrusion, Glenn Dyer maintains contracts with exterminators to prevent vermin or vector intrusion and contamination.

Inmates perform most of the cleaning on floors where they are allowed. As one inspector noted while traveling through a corridor between the jail and the courthouse, the polished concrete floor was so spotless that “you could look down and comb your hair in the reflection.”

Glenn Dyer offers a variety of educational opportunities. The education program is managed by Five Keys, a company that provides similar services to other county jails, including Santa Rita and jails in San Francisco, San Mateo and Los Angeles. Unlike Santa Rita, Glenn Dyer does not offer a re-entry program, but Five Keys conducts continuation courses outside jail for parolees so that they may finish their a course of study after release. The Grand Jury did not visit any classrooms during our inspection

Special Notes

After last winter’s Oroville Dam spillway collapse, Glenn Dyer Detention Facility housed 300 inmates from Butte County. As a result of that exchange, both agencies learned that the transfer plan did not provide for sufficient buses to transport prisoners. This resulted in the implementation of a better transit plan for future mutual aid exchanges.

During the North Bay fires last fall, Glenn Dyer was scheduled to accept inmates from Sonoma County. Although this prisoner transfer did not occur, jail personnel assisted on site during the emergency. ACSO staff who participated in mutual aid told the Grand Jury that the training they received through the Urban Shield program was beneficial to their efforts, especially in terms of communications.

The Grand Jury inspection of Glenn Dyer jail took place a few days after the conclusion of a well-publicized multi-day hunger strike conducted by approximately 120 inmates in order to demand living condition improvements, particularly for those in solitary confinement. Inmates are isolated not only for rules violations, but also as a means to protect other inmates who may be in danger from the general population. The Grand Jury was told by jail staff that the administrative segregation program at Glenn Dyer violates no regulations or laws governing treatment of inmates.

CONCLUSION

The Glenn Dyer facility, while showing some signs of age, appeared to be clean, well-maintained, and in good operating condition. The Grand Jury observed no security issues that are not in the process of being addressed.

FINDINGS *None*

RECOMMENDATIONS *None*

RESPONSES REQUIRED *None*

LIVERMORE CITY JAIL INSPECTION

The Grand Jury inspected the Livermore Jail on October 24, 2017. The jail is located at 1110 S. Livermore Avenue in Livermore, and serves as a temporary holding facility for the Livermore Police Department.

The jail is used very infrequently. The facility held only nine adult and three juvenile detainees from January 1 through October 24, 2017. At the time of the Grand Jury's inspection, there were no detainees at the jail.

The Grand Jury found the Livermore Jail to be very clean, well-maintained, and in good order for fulfilling the facility's limited uses.

The police department and jail share the same municipal building, which was built twenty years ago. The jail consists of two holding cells, two interview rooms and one room for meeting with attorneys. The holding cells have working sinks and toilets, and a shower room is located nearby. The holding cells do not have beds, but offer raised concrete slab benches for sitting and sleeping. A juvenile holding room, resembling a small conference room, is also located among the police department offices. It is surrounded with windows to permit constant observation of a juvenile detainee.

Adult detainees are brought to the jail and held for up to six hours awaiting police transportation to Santa Rita Jail in Dublin unless they are given a citation or released. Juvenile detainees are transported to the Alameda County Juvenile Justice Center in San Leandro if the seriousness of the case warrants further detention. Detainees are not booked at the jail, although exceptions are sometimes made for juveniles brought in for non-violent acts.

Upon arrival, a detainee completes a health questionnaire that is reviewed by police staff. Any detainee requiring immediate medical attention or a life-preserving prescription medication is transported by Livermore Fire Department EMTs to Valley Care Hospital in Pleasanton. The jail does not provide health care beyond basic first aid.

Detainees' personal items are bagged upon arrival and always transported with them to their next destination. Jumpsuits are available for detainees needing clean clothing. Blankets are also available upon request.

Detainees are permitted three local phone calls without charge, which enables them to contact family members as well as their attorneys. Due to the very short holding period, only attorneys are allowed to visit detainees at the jail.

CCTV cameras, monitored by police department staff, provide continuous visual coverage of the jail's physical space and access points. First aid and AED equipment are nearby, clearly marked and readily accessible. First aid kits were well-stocked, and police staff are trained on first aid, CPR and AED services. Fire extinguishers are inspected and certified monthly. Police officers use keyed lockers for storing their weapons before entering the jail area.

Food is not prepared on site. The police department provides detainees with water, soft drinks and snacks. A police officer may occasionally pick up local fast food for a detainee upon request.

Overall, the Grand Jury found the Livermore Jail to be very clean, well-maintained and in good order for fulfilling the facility's limited uses.

FINDINGS	<i>None</i>
RECOMMENDATIONS	<i>None</i>
RESPONSES REQUIRED	<i>None</i>

EAST COUNTY HALL OF JUSTICE HOLDING FACILITY INSPECTION

The Grand Jury inspected the new Alameda County Superior Court East County Hall of Justice holding facility on September 26, 2017. This facility is located in Dublin, part of the newly constructed East County Superior Court building that first opened in June of 2017, and is run by the Alameda County Sheriff's Office. The expense of running the new facility is jointly funded by the state and the county.

The court and holding facilities are located across the street from Alameda County's Santa Rita Jail. The proximity of Santa Rita to the court has lowered the cost of transporting detainees to their court appearances, even though they are still transported between facilities by vehicle. Initially, the court was used for all arraignments, but that has since changed, and many arraignments have been moved back to Superior Court in Oakland, lowering the number of detainees transported to the Dublin facility per day.

The Grand Jury focused its inspection of the holding facility on cells, hallways that provide detainee access to the courtrooms, attorney-client communication rooms, safety factors, and detainee transportation to and from the jail.

The jail facility contains 23 holding cells. All of these are mixed gender cells, but females and males are not held in cells together. No juveniles are brought to this facility. The large number of cells allows protective custody detainees to be held separately if needed. The holding cells have working sinks and toilets. The cells do not have beds or blankets, but offer raised concrete slab benches for sitting. All cells are ADA-approved. The holding cells and aisles the jury observed were very clean; a janitorial service operated by the county does nightly maintenance at the facility.

Although Santa Rita Jail is close to the holding facility, the only detainee transportation between the two facilities is by deputy-driven vehicle, primarily bus. Transportation is tightly controlled, and buses arrive in an enclosed garage where they are unloaded. Detainees are carefully checked in by deputies according to identification and passenger record. Santa Rita transports all detainees with morning court dates in time for their appearances, and returns them by noon.

Then the detainees with afternoon court times are transported, and returned to Santa Rita at the end of day.

The average detainee is held in these cells fewer than four hours due to the proximity of the originating jail, although the time may increase on occasion due to understaffing – the Grand Jury was told that funding allocations from the state do not defray the full cost of a sheriff's deputy. Typically, Mondays and Tuesdays are the highest volume days for court appearances, averaging 180 to 200 detainees. Normal volume during the rest of the week is from 140 to 170 detainees per day. At the time of our visit on a Tuesday morning, there were 159 detainees at the holding facility awaiting court appearances.

Due to the short amount of time most detainees spend at the holding facility, meals are eaten before arrival or after return. As a result, no food preparation facilities exist at the holding facility. Some detainees bring over snacks, and bagged lunches made at Santa Rita may be available based on scheduling.

The holding facility does not provide health care beyond basic first aid. First aid and AED equipment are located throughout the facility, clearly marked and readily accessible. First aid kits were well-stocked, and deputies and other non-sworn staff are trained on first aid, CPR and AED services. Fire extinguishers are inspected and certified monthly.

Safety within the courtrooms, hallways and cell areas is a high priority for the sheriff's office. Law enforcement personnel must store firearms in keyed gun lockers before entering the jail area or courtrooms. There are over 200 red emergency buttons located throughout the facility. These are placed approximately two to three feet off the floor so they can be reached from sitting or lying positions. (Initially, the emergency buttons were placed too high on the wall, but have been appropriately lowered.) Alarms and closed-circuit video feeds are centrally monitored so that assistance can be promptly directed to the correct location.

The facility has interview rooms attached to each courtroom for detainee communication with attorneys. When the facility first opened, the speakers embedded in the partitions in these rooms blocked out too much sound, and attorneys often resorted to shouting that could be heard in the adjacent hallway. The jury was told that the issue was being addressed.

This is a rather new facility, and the design seems to be working as planned. Overall, the Grand Jury found the Alameda County East County Hall of Justice Holding Facility to be very clean, well-organized, well-maintained, and in good order for fulfilling the requirements of the county.

FINDINGS	<i>None</i>
RECOMMENDATIONS	<i>None</i>
RESPONSES REQUIRED	<i>None</i>