

**SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
DIVISION OF COMPLIANCE, STANDARDS, AND INSPECTIONS  
LOCAL DETENTION FACILITY INSPECTION REPORT**

County: Spartanburg Facility: Spartanburg County Detention Center - Main Jail  
 Street Address: 950 California Avenue, Spartanburg, South Carolina 29303  
 Telephone: 864-596-2607 Home Detention Program Yes Work/Punishment Program No  
 Type I    II X III    IV    V    VI    VII    JuvHold No DesignatedFac No FedContract Yes  
 Responsible Official: Mr. Chuck Wright Title: Sheriff  
 Administrator/Director: Mr. Christopher Lesso, Detention Commander  
 Governing Body: County Council Chairperson: Mr. L. Manning Lynch  
 Date of Last Inspection: 10/25/21 Year Built: 1994 Last Year Remodeled: N/A

	Adult		Juvenile		
	M	F	M	F	
Rated Capacity:	233	96			329 (Total Rated Capacity)
Avg. Daily Pop (past 3 mos.):	609	132			741 (Total Avg. Daily Pop)
High Count (past 12 mos.):	646	160			Main Jail High Count 791 Facility High Count 972

**I. Security/Custodial Staff**

(includes shift supervisors-excludes senior/chief security officers)

# Corr Officers	Alpha	Bravo	Charlie	Delta	Sub Total	Total
Full-time Male	14	12	13	13	52	FT 78
Full-time Female	7	6	6	5	24	PT 2
Part-time Male	1				1	= 80
Part-time Female	1				1	Vacant 28
Vacant Positions	7	7	7	7	28	Reserve 0
Reserve Officers					0	Slots 106

**II. Administrative Staff** (denotes number and full-time(FT) or part-time(PT))

Administration	Support	Treatment	Program	Total
Director 1FT	Maint 3FT	Doctor 1PT	Education 1FT	FT 94
AsstDir	FoodServ 7FT	NP 1FT	Classific 1FT	PT 5
Sen/Chief 2FT	Records	RN 2FT	Training 3FT	= 99
Clerical 21FT	Prop/Supl. 1FT	LPN 5FT	Recreation 1FT	Contract
Other 2FT	Other 20FT	Pharm. 4FT4PT	Other 19FT	Volunteers 25
Vacant	Vacant 5FT	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant 5

**III. Total Full-time (I&II) 172 Total Part-time (I&II) 7 Grand Total (I&II) 179**

This facility was found in compliance with Standards.

This facility was found in non-compliance with the Standards listed below:

1005(w), 1031(b), 1065(e), 2014-16, 2014-18, 2014-19, 2014-26, 2014-32, 2017-5, 2073, 2082(a) (b) (c)

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Rated Capacity Sheet

Narrative Report

To Follow Fire Inspection Report

To Follow DHEC Inspection Report

Inspected by: Robert E. Green

Inspection Date: July 19, 2022

Reviewed by: Blake E. Taylor, Jr.

Division Director  
Compliance, Standards, and Inspections

**NARRATIVE REPORT  
SPARTANBURG COUNTY DETENTION CENTER  
MAIN JAIL**

**July 19, 2022**

On July 19, 2022, an inspection of the Spartanburg County Detention Center was conducted by Mr. Robert E. Ellison, Jr., Detention and Correctional Inspector, with the following violations noted at the Main Jail:

1005 - Definitions:

The following definition shall apply:

- (w) "Direct Supervision" means management of inmates in which security personnel are not separated by a barrier that prohibits visual and audio interactions with the inmates. Officers work directly in housing units and provide frequent, non-scheduled observation of and personal interaction with inmates. Each housing unit has at least one (1) Security Officer posted to supervise the unit twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week. Security Personnel are assigned/posted to housing units at a ratio of no less than one (1) per every sixty-four (64) inmates or portion thereof. When the entire inmate population in a living unit is in a secured mode (e.g., cells/rooms are locked for sleeping, etc.), the ratio may be altered, provided that adequate supervision is maintained in each living unit.

Most of the living areas are currently staffed with two Officers; however, the required ratio of one Officer to every sixty-four inmates is not available in those housing units where the population exceeds one hundred and twenty-eight inmates.

1031 - Number of Personnel:

- (b) Each facility shall have sufficient personnel to provide twenty-four (24) hour supervision and processing of inmates, to arrange full coverage of all identified security posts, and to accomplish essential support functions.

The Spartanburg County Detention Center currently has twenty-eight (28) vacant security positions as well as five vacant administrative/support slots. Additional

positions need to be authorized, while both recruitment and retention also need to be improved. Employees from the Main Jail's personnel numbers are still providing coverage for the Annex.

1065 - Facility Security:

- (e) All facilities shall have two-way intercom systems for emergency communications. This shall not substitute for security personnel, as required in Standard 1031.

The intercom system in the cells requires monitoring by staff for communication to be initiated, which does not comply with the definition of "intercom" as specified in Standard 1005(ah). The system was spot checked again during this inspection, and it was determined that the scream alert function used to notify staff of a problem was not operational in all areas. It was also observed that additional training on the operation of the system is needed until an actual intercom can be installed.

2014-16 - Toilets:

Inmates have access to toilets and hand-washing facilities twenty-four (24) hours per day and are able to use toilet facilities without staff assistance when they are confined in their cells/sleeping areas.

Toilets are provided at a minimum ratio of one (1) for every twelve (12) inmates in male facilities and one (1) for every eight (8) inmates in female facilities. Urinals may be substituted for up to one-half of the toilets in male facilities. All housing units with three (3) or more inmates have a minimum of two (2) toilets.

Many cells are housing four (4) inmates, creating a violation of the toilet ratio requirements specified by this Standard.

2014-18 - Showers:

Inmates have access to operable showers with temperature controlled hot and cold running water at a minimum ratio of one (1) shower for every twelve (12) inmates. Water for showers is thermostatically controlled to temperatures ranging from one hundred (100) degrees to one hundred twenty (120) degrees Fahrenheit in order to ensure the safety of inmates and to promote hygienic practice.

Due to overcrowded conditions, the proper ratio of showers is not available in several housing units. The showers in some of the living areas are in deteriorated condition and need to be repaired.

2014-19 - Furnishings:

Each inmate confined to a cell/room is provided a sleeping area with the following: a bed; a desk or approved writing surface, and chair or stool; storage for personal items; and a place to store clothes.

Due to overcrowded conditions, not all items required by this Standard are available to every inmate.

2014-26 - Dayroom Furnishings:

In facilities which have a combination of day rooms, multipurpose rooms, and other activity areas that are routinely accessible to the inmates on a consistent basis during non-sleeping hours, appropriate furnishings may be moved as needed throughout the day if doing so will not limit use by the inmates assigned. If the dayroom tables and chairs are intended to avoid having additional desks/writing surfaces and chairs/stools inside the immediate sleeping areas in open dormitory settings, there must be enough furnishings to accommodate the entire inmate population.

Due to overcrowded conditions in several of the housing units, adequate day room furnishings are not available for all inmates using the common space.

2014-32 - Clothing and Supplies:

Space is provided in the facility to store and issue clothing, bedding, cleaning supplies, and other items required for daily operations.

Discussion: General guidelines which may be useful for planning are: two (2) cubic feet per inmate for personal clothing; one (1) cubic foot per inmate for personal property; two (2) cubic feet per inmate for institutional clothing and bedding; and five and one-fourth (5 1/4) cubic feet per mattress times twenty-five (25%) percent of the facility's rated capacity. This storage room should be well ventilated.

There is a significant lack of storage space in this facility. Both inmate clothing and bedding items are

consistently placed in the corridor adjacent to the laundry while waiting to be cleaned.

2017-5 - Inmate Housing (Minimum & Medium Security):

Single cells/rooms and multiple occupancy cells/rooms may be used for housing inmates in medium/minimum custody when the classification system, cell/room size, and level of supervision meet the following requirements:

(a)	<u>Number of Occupants</u>	<u>Amount of Unencumbered Space*</u>
	1	35 square feet per occupant**
	2-64	25 square feet per occupant**

\*"Unencumbered space" is that usable space which is not encumbered by furnishings or fixtures. In determining unencumbered space in the cell or room, the total square footage is obtained and the square footage of fixtures and equipment is subtracted. All fixtures and equipment must be in operational position and must provide the following minimums per person: bed, plumbing fixtures (if inside the cell/room), desk or approved writing surface, and chair or stool.

\*\*Sleeping area partitions are required if more than six (6) people are housed in one sleeping area. At least one dimension of the unencumbered space is no less than seven feet.

- (b) When confinement exceeds 16 hours per day, there is at least 70 square feet of total floor space per occupant.
- (c) Housing is in compliance with Standards 1082, SC 2014-16, 2014-17, 2014-18, and 2014-20.

A classification system is used to divide the occupants into groups which reduce the probability of assault and disruptive behavior. At a minimum, the classification system evaluates the following:

- \* mental and emotional stability
- \* escape history
- \* history of assaultive behavior
- \* medical status
- \* age
- \* enemies of record
- \* other categories that may impact facility security.

Medium security inmates housed in multiple occupancy cells/rooms require direct supervision. (See glossary for definition of direct supervision.)

Most of the housing units are holding numbers of inmates greatly in excess of their rated capacities. The proper ratio of single cells is also not available.

Overcrowding continues to be a major violation at this facility. For the last three (3) months, the total average daily population was seven hundred and forty-one (741) inmates, which is two hundred and twenty-five (225%) percent of the official rated capacity of three hundred twenty-nine (329). Most of the male pre-trial living units are consistently overcrowded, and many of the cells are housing four (4) inmates.

2073 - Personal Clothing Storage:

If an inmate is to be detained longer than forty-eight (48) hours, his/her personal clothing shall be securely stored.

As mentioned above, there is a critical lack of storage space at this facility.

2082 - Laundering of Bedding and Linens:

An adequate supply of bedding and linens shall be maintained so that the following laundry or cleaning frequencies may be adhered to:

- (a) Issued linens shall be changed and washed at least once a week.
- (b) Mattresses shall be disinfected or sanitized monthly and before re-issue.
- (c) Blankets shall be laundered, or otherwise sterilized, monthly and before re-issue.
- (d) A clean towel shall be issued at least twice weekly.

Covers on many of the mattresses are either cracked or otherwise deteriorated, making proper sanitation as required by this Standard difficult to accomplish. The laundry area is in operation constantly. Adequate space for all laundry efforts appear to be unavailable.

Comment:

The International Fire Code (Section 1008.1.1(2)) requires that door openings to resident sleeping units in occupancies in Group I-3 must have a clear width of not less than 28 inches. Many of the pretrial male living units are housing four inmates in some cells. At least one of them sleeps on a cot or on a mattress placed on the floor. In most of these cells, the position of the cot/mattress encroaches on the required exit width.

