



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Office of the State Inspector General

Michael C. Westfall, CPA
State Inspector General

P.O. Box 1151
Richmond, Virginia 23218

Telephone (804) 625-3255
www.osig.virginia.gov

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The Honorable Glenn Youngkin
Governor of Virginia
P.O. Box 1475
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Governor Youngkin,

The Office of the State Inspector General (OSIG) conducted an inspection of Caroline Correctional Unit #2. This report includes a summary of the factors listed in *Code of Virginia* § 53.1-17.6 (B), recommendations (if applicable), safety and compliance classification, recommended timeline for the next inspection, and the Director's response to the inspection.

Inspection Report: Caroline Correctional Unit #2: "Camp 2" January 15, 2025 at 9:25am

Background

Camp 2 is a minimum security work center located in Hanover, Virginia. Camp 2 is a working facility with agribusiness to include a farm and a greenhouse. Eligible inmates are encouraged to engage in rehabilitation and reintegration programs, education and training, employment, and other activities. Not all inmates meet eligibility to work due to the type of crimes committed and/or sentence length. Programs include: highway labor, custodial maintenance, computer training, forklift operations, wastewater treatment certification, and a GED program.

The facility can house up to 138 male inmates in A and B housing pods, and there are four additional holding cells. 88 male inmates were housed at the facility at the time of inspection. The facility's basement includes a visitation center, commissary, laundry, barber shop, property room, law library, a recreation room with a pool table, ping pong table, two exercise bicycles, three phones, and two JPAY kiosks. Phones and JPAY kiosks were properly functioning. Outside, the facility maintains free weights and basketball courts for outdoor recreation.

The facility tour was completed with Sergeant Potter, Officer Davis, and Building & Grounds Supervisor Dobson. The Superintendent was not present for the inspection due to a training conflict. The inspection included interviews with staff and management, observation of the prison's physical environment and daily operations, and interview with one inmate. Inspectors visited the commissary, food services, laundry, storage, and housing areas of the facility.

Safety/Security

The facility has security procedures in place: a handheld metal detector, phone detection, as well as a pat down/frisk search to screen staff, inmates, and visitors. Male staff search males and female staff search males and females. The facility has a total of 42 inspected fire extinguishers accessible to staff, not inmates. Extinguishers are replaced every three years and sent off to be inspected as required. The facility has a total of 98 cameras with approximately 330 views. Reportedly, all cameras were functioning at the time of inspection.

Staffing

Currently, the facility has 58 full-time staff positions (43 security and 15 non-security). There are two wage positions (one medical and one non-security). Sergeant Potter indicated zero security staff vacancies and noted two staff members were helping at a different state facility (Greensville Correctional Center).

Medical

Upon an inmate's intake to this facility, the medical services unit head nurse ensures each inmate's medical history is properly coded and an interview/appropriate screening is completed with the inmate to discuss medical and behavioral health needs. This unit is able to complete labs, x-rays, and ultrasounds, but does not have an infirmary. Medical request forms are available to inmates and a doctor is on site one day a week. The doctor was onsite during the visit; however, was in a meeting so inspectors did not interview the doctor. Dental services can be provided to one to two inmates each month at Beaumont Juvenile Correctional Center. If mental health services are needed, a psychiatrist can respond to this facility (usually within 24 hours) from Haynesville Correctional Center. This facility currently has one counselor and they are in the process of filling an additional counselor position.

Housing

Both A and B housing pods included adequate mattresses, bedding/blanket, and pillows. Inmates appeared to have adequate and appropriate clothing. Upon arrival, inmates are issued three pairs of boxers, three orange t-shirts, three button-up long/short sleeve shirts, three pairs of pants, one pair of boots, and one pair of shower shoes. Inmates leaving the facility for work are issued five pairs versus three. Each housing unit contained two accessible toilets, two urinals, and a sink, all functioning properly and clean/free of mold and mildew. One inmate reported issues with the toilet, plumbing, and ventilation; however, inspector did not observe issues on the day of

inspection. There are 10 showers in the basement, which were functioning and clean/free of mold and mildew. A and B pods were comfortably heated according to the season. There are six large fans in each pod to use in the summer and the facility is “on the list” for an air conditioning unit. Living areas were free of insects and rodents and there is an established pest control program, implemented as needed. A and B pods contained four phones (all functioning) and one no-contact visitation phone. No inmates were observed in the holding cells at time of inspection.

Food Services

Meals are served in the “chow hall,” which contains 14 tables, seating four at each table. Monthly food menus are posted near A and B pods. When the facility is on lockdown, bagged lunches are delivered to the A and B pods. Food Operations Manager Peterson indicated heated and insulated carts or trays are not needed at this time. Compartmented trays were in satisfactory condition and meals were covered by saran wrap. Inspector observed eight inmates working/preparing lunch in the kitchen; all inmates wore hair nets, and one inmate was observed without appropriate gloves. Inspectors were not present for meal service.

Sanitation

Overall, the facility was clean in all areas. The facility is properly sanitized, and floors are swept and mopped with detergent or germicidal agent at least once daily. Trash is taken out at least twice a day, every day. Common area toilets and sinks are sanitized three times per day by inmates. Sergeant Potter showed the inspector the cleaning supplies available in a closet/storage area and inmates have access to the supply closet to check out cleaning agents, germicide, soap, paper towels, and other cleaning supplies as needed. Inmates are responsible for adhering to the laundry schedule and drop off times. The facility has two large commercial washers and dryers.

Accessibility to Complaint and Grievance Forms

Complaint and Grievance forms are available and accessible to inmates outside of A and B pods. Forms available included: Facility Request Form for inmates to request appointments, information, or other services, Written Complaint Form and Regular Grievance Form with instructions for filing, Property Disposition Form, and Commissary Form. In the same general area and accessible to inmates was a red grievance box for form deposit. Officer Davis indicated inmates are encouraged to speak directly to staff for emergency requests and informal complaints processing. OSIG has not received any complaints regarding this facility since the establishment of the OSIG Ombudsman Unit.

Additional Information

The information below was provided by the Superintendent subsequent to the inspection:

Staffing: Currently, the facility has 58 full-time staff positions (43 security and 15 non-security). There are two wage positions (one medical and one non-security).

Number of staff who received disciplinary actions in the past year: two; one staff member was on a probationary period at the time of disciplinary action.

Average number of service years for security staff: 43 security staff with an average of 8.07 years of service.

Most recent lockdown: September 19-26, 2024.

Number of physical assaults at the facility in the last year: Six inmate on inmate fights.

Number of sexual assaults at the facility in the last year: 0.

Number of video visitation requests at the facility in the last year: 458.

Number of video visitation denials at the facility in the last year: 0.

Number of in-person visitation requests at the facility in the last year: 648.

Number of in-person visitation denials at the facility in the last year: One (a child was not associated with the adult in the computer-based Virginia Department of Corrections offender information management system (VACORIS)).

Key Findings

- Inmate's family members schedule video visits through GTL and the Visitation Unit handles scheduling. In-person visits are coordinated through Atmore (DOC Central Office). Reportedly, denials for in-person visits are more likely related to others not passing the background check.
- If an inmate receives disciplinary charges, the inmate can lose phone privileges; inmates are allowed eight phone calls per day with an allotted 20 minutes maximum per call.
- This minimum-security facility is required to complete lockdowns at least twice a year at a minimum.
- This facility had zero inmate deaths and zero over-detentions in the last year.

Inspector Comments

This inspection is not intended to assess compliance with the legislative or regulatory requirements, nor assess compliance with Corrections policies; though both may be considered where relevant.

Caroline Correctional Unit #2 staff were helpful and assisted by answering the inspectors' questions. Staff were courteous and open to coordinating a tour of the entire facility.

Recommendations

While the overall lighting in housing pod B was appropriate; inspector noted three four-foot fluorescent lights that were non-functioning. This was immediately reported to Building & Grounds Supervisor Dobson who indicated the lights would be taken care of as soon as possible. Supervisor Dobson indicated as lights go out, they are moving to LED lights.

While eight inmates working in the kitchen wore appropriate safety gear such as hair nets and gloves, inspectors noted one inmate not wearing appropriate gloves. This was immediately reported to Sergeant Potter and corrected on the spot with the inmate putting on appropriate gloves. It was noted that gloves are only required when touching food.

Facility Classification

Tier III- The facility has adequate conditions of confinement and programming options requiring an inspection within the next 36 months.

DOC Response

The VADOC appreciates the thorough inspection of Caroline Correctional Unit #2 and is proud of the good work being done at that facility, which is evinced throughout this report. We welcome the opportunity to work with OSIG to identify areas of improvement and have already addressed the recommendations outlined above.

The three fluorescent lights that were observed to be non-functioning in Dorm B were timely replaced and are now properly functioning. Daily safety and sanitation inspection checks will include observation of lights in both dorms. The facility will work to ensure that work orders are timely submitted, and that appropriate staff are notified concerning lights needing replacement.

As noted in the recommendations, gloves are only required to be worn in the kitchen when touching food. The inmate who was observed without gloves in the kitchen was immediately provided appropriate gloves. The facility is committed to ensuring that all inmates are educated on wearing gloves, which is reinforced through required ServSafe training.

OSIG appreciates the assistance provided by the Department of Corrections during this inspection. Please contact me with any questions at 804-625-3255 or michael.westfall@osig.virginia.gov.

Sincerely,



Michael C. Westfall, CPA
State Inspector General

cc: The Honorable John Littel, Chief of Staff to Governor Youngkin
Justin Vélez-Hagan, Deputy Chief of Staff to Governor Youngkin
Kate Stockhausen, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff
Jason Miyares, Attorney General of Virginia
Senate Committee on Rehabilitation and Social Services

House Committee on Public Safety

Corrections Oversight Committee

Chadwick Dotson, Director, Virginia Department of Corrections

Dave Robinson, Chief of Corrections Operations, Virginia Department of Corrections