

Southern Ohio Correctional Facility Inspection Brief

Correctional Institution Inspection Committee

March 11, 2013

Institution Profile

- Lucasville, Ohio (Scioto County)
- Level 4/maximum security
- Population: 1,365 (as of 2/13)
 - Capacity: 1,520
 - 57.4% Black, 41.3% White
 - Average age: 32
- The facility has experienced significant turnover in its population within the past year, as disruptive inmates are being more quickly reclassified as maximum security and transferred to SOCF and current Level 4 inmates are being encouraged to reduce their security classification.

Inspection Overview

Safety and Security: Acceptable

Health and Wellbeing: Good

Fair Treatment: In Need of Improvement

Reentry and Rehabilitation: Acceptable

Fiscal Accountability: Exceptional

Key Findings

- **Assaults:** From 2010 to 2012, inmate-on-inmate assaults increased by 43.4%; inmate-on-staff assaults increased by 12.8%.
- **Fights:** The rate of rule 19 (fight) convictions decreased by 37.7% between 2011 and 2012.
- **Disturbances:** Total disturbances in 2012 doubled in comparison to 2010.
- **Use of Force:** Total uses of force decreased by 18.9% between 2010 and 2012. Use of chemical agents (mace) decreased by 1.7%.
- **Unit Conditions:** The average level of cleanliness was rated as good and there were minimal maintenance concerns.
- **Healthcare:** There were no backlogs reported for either medical or mental health services and vacancies were low.
- **Staff Accountability:** Inmate focus group participants relayed concerns regarding treatment by officers, particularly regarding poor communication and excessive force.
- **Inmate Discipline:** Hearing procedures were generally followed; however, there is a need for targeted attention to inmate mental health screenings.
- **Access to Purposeful Activities:** Programming space is limited for 4B inmates. The ratio of inmates enrolled to inmates on the waitlist for academic programs was worse than the DRC average and the comparator prison, although it had improved since 2010.
- **Quality of Programming:** Quality of programming was rated as exceptional due to the teacher's observed skills and high GED passage and certificate achievement rates.
- **Fiscal Accountability:** The Warden relayed his successful efforts to reduce overtime and costs, and improve staff morale. SOCF also has a noteworthy recycling program.

Assaults

