



# CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION INSPECTION COMMITTEE

*A Joint Committee of the 134<sup>th</sup> Ohio General Assembly*

## SUMMARY OF THE INSPECTION AND EVALUATION OF LEBANON CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION

FEBRUARY 8, 2022

### Facility Overview

Lebanon Correctional Institution (LeCI) is a close security male prison, housing Level 2 (medium), Level 3 (close), and a small population of Level 4 (high) security offenders. The facility opened in 1960 and is located on 1,900 acres in Lebanon, Ohio. The initial design capacity for LeCI was 1,813 offenders. As of February 8, 2022, the institution housed 1,679 offenders. As of January 26, 2022, the institution employed 421 total staff, of which 250 were officers. There were 119 vacancies (22.0%), including 92 officer vacancies (26.9%).

LeCI is managed by Warden Chae Harris. In attendance at the inspection were CIIC staff.

### Key Inspection Findings

#### Safety and Security

- The facility reported 997 use of force incidents. This is an increase from CY 2019 (607) and CY 2018 (563). Staff reported that CY 2021 resulted in a decreased number of use of force incidents.
- 23.8% of the offender survey respondents indicated that drugs were not available at the institution.
- Uses of force against offenders increased significantly in 2021.
- Officers were mostly consistent in making rounds of the housing units.

#### Health and Wellbeing

- Most unit conditions were rated "acceptable to good".
- The medical facilities were observed to be in good condition and clean. The current challenge they face is reduced staffing, worsened by staff-call-offs.
- There have been nine offender deaths from 2019-2021, including at least one linked to COVID-19, one from fentanyl intoxication, and two from suicide.
- Food service facilities appeared orderly, though there were concerns with a pest presence.
- Offenders are offered a good variety of activities for recreation.

#### Fair Treatment

- Informal complaints had a high rate of untimeliness in 2021 (24%). During inspection, three of the nine (33%) reviewed informal complaints did not receive responses from staff.
- During inspection, there were 199 offenders assigned to disciplinary housing (TPU), including 39 on the mental health caseload. Overall, the common areas of the TPU were rated as "good."

#### Rehabilitation and Reentry

- As of January 2022, there were 259 students in academic courses. 65 offenders were awaiting enrollment.
- Case managers expressed frustration with lack of communication with security staff stating teamwork has eroded.
- LeCI had four vocational and two OPI program offerings.

#### Fiscal Accountability

- Overall, LeCI decreased their total utility costs by 3.2% in FY 2021.
- Staff survey responses indicated staff's greatest concerns are regarding retention, morale, and communication.



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## RATINGS SUMMARY

### Methodology

Ratings are a four-point scale based on the balance of the indicator ratings for that area. A rating of “Exceptional” for an indicator means that there is no room for improvement and, generally, that the facility performs above other prisons. A rating of “Good” means that the prison more than meets the standard, but is not significantly better than other prisons or there is still room for improvement. A rating of “Acceptable” means that the prison just meets the standard or meets the standard with minor exceptions. A rating of “In Need of Improvement” means that the prison does not meet standards, is significantly different from other prisons in a negative manner, or that CIIC staff had serious concerns.

	2020	2022
<b>SAFETY &amp; SECURITY</b>	<b>ACCEPTABLE</b>	<b>ACCEPTABLE</b>
Violence Outcome Measures	In Need of Improvement	In Need of Improvement
Use of Force	Good	Acceptable
Control of Illegal Substances	In Need of Improvement	Acceptable
Offender Perception of Safety	Good	Acceptable
Unit Security Management	Good	Good
Institutional Security Management	Acceptable	Good
Prison Rape Elimination Act	Good	Acceptable
<b>HEALTH &amp; WELLBEING</b>	<b>GOOD</b>	<b>ACCEPTABLE</b>
Unit Conditions	Good	Acceptable
Medical Services	Acceptable	Acceptable
Mental Health Services	Good	Good
Recovery Services	Good	Good
Food Services	Acceptable	Acceptable
Recreation	Good	Good
<b>FAIR TREATMENT</b>	<b>ACCEPTABLE</b>	<b>ACCEPTABLE</b>
Staff/Offender Interactions	Good	Acceptable
Inmate Grievance Procedure	Acceptable	Acceptable
Offender Discipline	Acceptable	Good
<b>REHABILITATION &amp; REENTRY</b>	<b>GOOD</b>	<b>ACCEPTABLE</b>
Reentry Planning and Programming	Good	Acceptable
Rehabilitative Programming	Good	N/A*
Family & Community Connections	Acceptable	Good
Academic Programming	Good	Good
Library Services	Acceptable	In Need of Improvement
Vocational & Work Skill Development	Acceptable	Acceptable
Ohio Penal Industries	Good	Good
<b>FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY</b>	<b>ACCEPTABLE</b>	<b>ACCEPTABLE</b>
Fiscal Wellness	Good	Acceptable
Environmental Sustainability	Good	Good
Staff Management	In Need of Improvement	In Need of Improvement

\*Rated areas have been revised since the prior inspection report.