



Wisconsin Department of Corrections

Governor Tony Evers | Secretary Kevin A. Carr

Office of Detention Facilities

Date: October 10, 2023

Sheriff Jeff Wallace
Rusk County Sheriff's Department
311 E. Miner Ave. Suite L100
Ladysmith, WI 54848

RE: 2023 Annual Inspection

Facility Name: Rusk County Jail
Address: 311 E. Miner Ave. Suite L100
Ladysmith, WI 54848

Facility Type and Applicable Wisconsin Administrative Code:

- Juvenile Detention Facility (Chapter DOC 346)
- Secured Residential Care Center for Children and Youth (Chapter DOC 347)
- Huber Facility (Chapter DOC 348)
- Municipal Lockup Facility (Chapter DOC 349)
- Jail (Chapter DOC 350)

Date of Inspection: September 6, 2023 **Inspected By:** Brad Hoover

Inspection Process: The annual inspection of the facility was conducted pursuant to WI Statute 301.37(3). The inspection compared the facility and its operation to applicable state statutes and Department of Corrections administrative code. This inspection consisted of a tour of the facility to assess the safety, sanitation, adequacy, and fitness of the facility; dialogue with staff and inmates; and a review of facility records and documentation.

Approved Capacity Details

Maximum Rated Capacity	Population on the Day of Inspection	Is Facility Approved to Double Cell	Is Facility Approved to Hold Juveniles
52	25	Yes	No

Inspection Results:

- **Administrative Code DOC 350.12(1) Sanitation and Hygiene**

The following issues were discussed with Captain Murray during the inspection closeout:

- Various ceiling tiles were broken or damaged throughout the facility. These will need to be repaired or replaced.
- The showers in the inmate living areas show wear and tear and need attention. One shower was leaking through the wall into the main hallway. Maintenance should address this issue immediately.
- The carpeting in the conference room and the media room are stained and damaged. They should be removed and replaced with a product more suitable for a confinement setting.

Inspection Comments:

The facility issues that have been referenced past inspections still exist today to include the concern of having the dispatch center within the secure perimeter of the jail. The county has moved forward with hiring an architect and construction management company for the design and development of a new jail to address the concerns regarding classification, programming and overall safety and efficiency. The county should be commended for taking action to address and correct these issues moving forward.

In closing, I would like to thank Captain Murray and your staff for their cooperation during this inspection process. If you have any questions regarding this report or any other matter, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Brad Hoover, Inspector
Office of Detention Facilities

Cc: George Murray, Jail Administrator
Greg Bucholtz, ODF Director
File