

Visit Notes: Yankton County, South Dakota September 11th 2015

The Codington County Justice Advisory Committee's (CCJAC) basic task is to recommend solutions to the county's court and jail facility problems. To do this better, the CCJAC visits other recently constructed jails and courts facilities. This helps the CCJAC to understand the different options and variables to consider for modern court and jail facilities. On September 11th, 2015, the CCJAC visited the facilities in Yankton County, South Dakota.

Project Delivery

Yankton County's current court and jail facility is the result of an addition to a 1974 Court/Jail building. To fund the construction, a bond of about \$9M passed on first try about 8.5 years ago. The building has office space for courts and courtrooms on the second floor while law enforcement offices are located on the first floor. A two story jail is connected on the east side. The overall jail bed count is 132 (which includes the original jail).

Architect: Architecture Inc.

General Contractor: Welfl Construction Co., Yankton, SD

Basic Evaluative Criteria

Construction Costs

Component	Cost in Millions	Rough Cost Per SF	Rough Cost Per Bed
Jail, Court, PD, Sheriff's Office renovation/addition	About \$9.2 cost to county	Cannot determine	Cannot determine

Operating Costs/Issues

- ~\$1.3M annual jail budget.
- Thanks to Federal USMS inmates, cash flow is likely to become positive.
- Jail Staff= 17 FTE jailers, 10 PTE jailers, 2 others. Try to have 4 to a shift (1 central control, 2 rovers, 1 booking). Recent \$200K camera upgrade helpful.

Design Efficiency

Jail

- Central control has constant viewing into pods using an indirect supervision design.
- Central control also controls all doors in the jail and all utilities in jail (booking can act as alternate remote control station).
- Despite being able to see into the pods from central control, much of the interior of each pod isn't clearly visible. This appears to be due to a compact 2-story pod design with relatively constricted fields of view.
- General lack of staff restrooms can cause a problem keeping a constant presence in central control.
- Laundry originally planned with no vent. Therefore, had to create laundry in old part of building making it hard to use prisoners for laundry duty due to lack of security measures (e.g. circuit panel in laundry).
- Space for ITV hearings set up in corridor. Would prefer dedicated ITV room.
- No intervening "vestibule" cells between sally port and booking area.
- Large drive-through sally port
- Access chases behind most cells in newest housing area

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Courts

- Three courtrooms of different sizes with shared use based on trial (not assigned to judges).
- Additional multipurpose (conference/hearing/court) room.
- Some separation of circulation. Inmates enter courtrooms separate from the public and jury. However, inmates escorted past court offices through the same door used by judges for some courtrooms.
- Well-laid out open lobby between courts, clerk of courts and court services.

Specific Features:

- Skylights in cell blocks eliminated need for side windows.
- Type of Glass on front of cell blocks allows inmates to see out necessitating use of tarps over female housing pod.
- For some parts of the jail, cameras are the primary way to observe inmates (a remote supervision model).
- Steel toilets are very expensive despite inconsistent performance.
- Building sewage grinder didn't last and wasn't replaced (conscious choice with city engineer).
- Low railings on 2nd floor of cell blocks.
- Stair design in cell blocks doesn't work with standard inmate footwear.
- Eyewash station in sally port is useful.
- Booking area desk is very low.
- Padded booking cell with big drain is good.
- Adding to an old building can cause problems, especially plumbing problems.
- Nice large service window for clerk of courts.

Right-Sizing

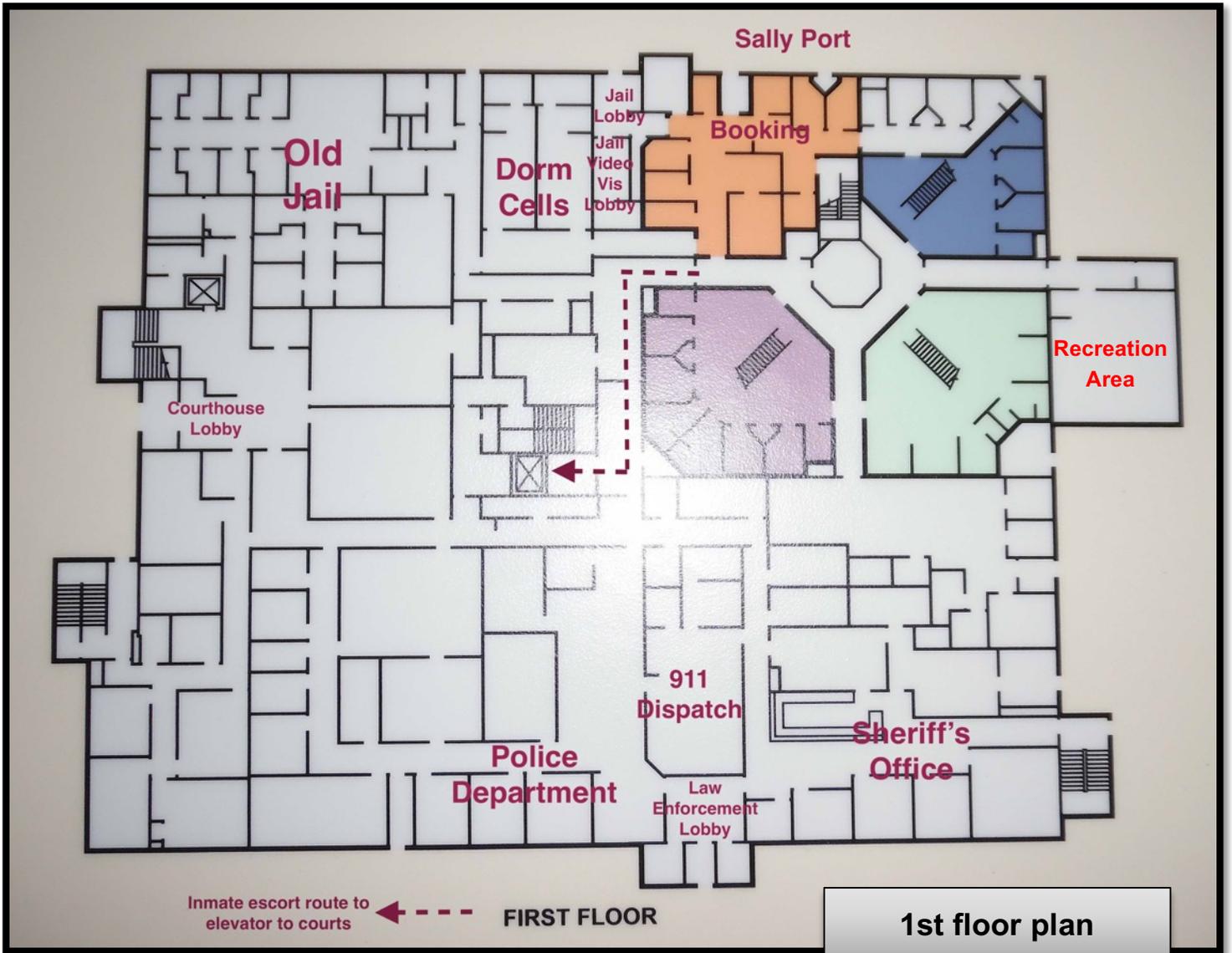
- Overall bed count seems adequate.
- Would like a ratio of at least 10% maximum security jail beds/cells
- Video visitation suite is good size and design.
- Booking area is small compared to booking workload (approximately 2700 bookings in 2014)
- Not enough holding cells
- Court rooms appear well-sized for a variety of proceedings.

Expandability

- Tight footprint might limit future expansion on site.
- If local ADP grows, could lower number of out-of-jurisdiction inmates. Day before visit inmate population was 99 (64 Federal, 25 Local). 95 is normal.

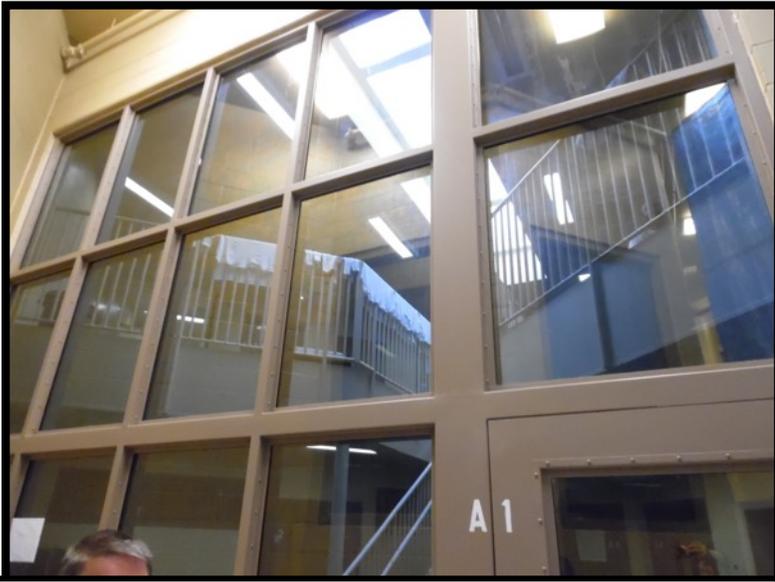
Other: Recommend inmate medical insurance costs \$0.81 per inmate per day w \$10K deductible.

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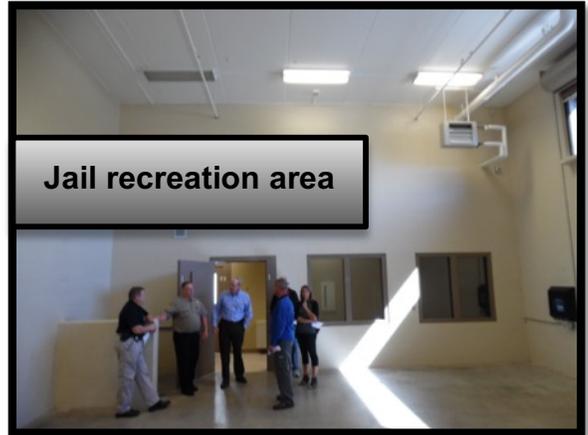


View from central control toward block with tarps over windows

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Front of block in main inmate housing area



Jail recreation area



inmate housing in old part of jail

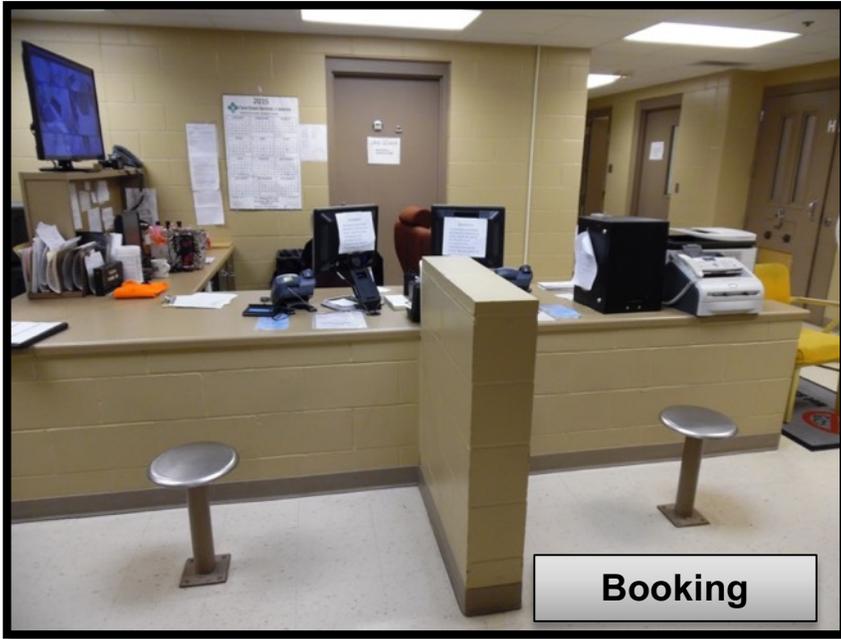


Sally port exterior



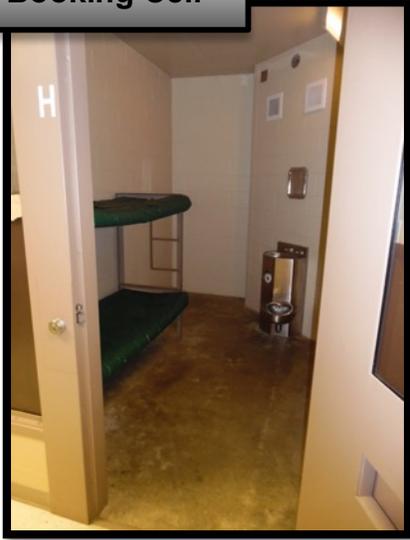
Sally port interior

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Booking

Booking Cell



ITV Area



Padded Booking Cell



Large drain



Video Visitation

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Jail Laundry



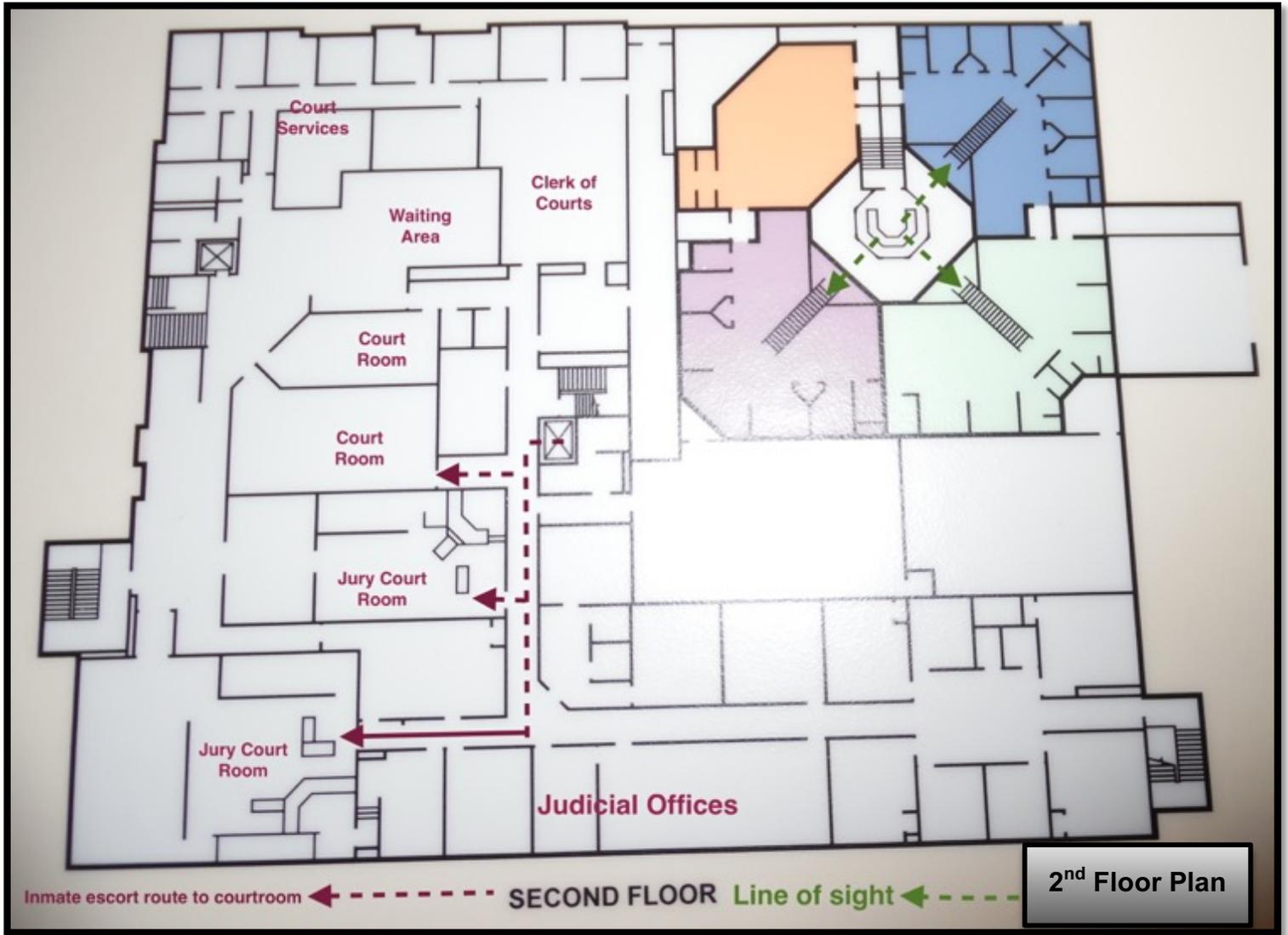
Access Chase behind cells



Kitchen



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Medium Jury Courtroom



Multi purpose (court/hearing) room



Clerk of Courts customer window



Court Lobby