

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
Bureau of Climate and Environmental Health
Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards
67 Forest Street, Suite # 100 Marlborough, MA 01752
617-624-6000 | mass.gov/dph

Maura T. Healey
Governor

Kimberley Driscoll
Lieutenant Governor

Kiame Mahaniah, MD, MBA
Secretary

Robert Goldstein, MD, PhD
Commissioner

August 17, 2026

To: Shawn Jenkins, Commissioner, Department of Corrections (electronic copy)
Kiame Mahaniah, MD, MBA, Secretary, Executive Office of Health and Human Services (electronic copy)
Clerk, Massachusetts House of Representatives (electronic copy)
Clerk, Massachusetts Senate (electronic copy)
Robert Raymond, Environmental Health and Safety Officer (electronic copy)

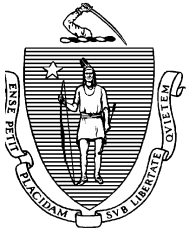
Greetings,

Pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403, please find the inspection report for Essex County Women's in Transition, the Plan of Correction (POC) from the facility and the POC acceptance letter from the Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS).

Sincerely,

Amy Riordan, MPH
Deputy Director, EHRS, BCEH

Cc: Robert Goldstein, MD, PhD, Commissioner, DPH (electronic copy)
Gina K. Kwon, Secretary, Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (electronic copy)
Leslie Whelan, Director, Salisbury Board of Health (electronic copy)
Brianna Arruda, Director, Policy Development and Compliance Unit (electronic copy)
Kevin Coppinger, Sheriff (electronic copy)
Heidi Mora, Superintendent (electronic copy)



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June 26, 2026

Kevin F. Coppinger, Sheriff
Essex County Sheriff's Department Headquarters
20 Manning Avenue
Middleton, MA 01929 (electronic copy)

Re: Facility Inspection – Essex County Women in Transition, Salisbury

Dear Sheriff Coppinger:

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (Department) Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS) conducted an inspection of the Essex County Women in Transition on June 18, 2026, accompanied by Lieutenant Robert Raymond and Deputy Superintendent Jennifer Murphy in accordance with Department regulations 105 CMR 451.000: Minimum Health and Sanitation Standards and Inspection Procedures for Correctional Facilities.

The inspection identified 1 total deficiency: 0 deficiencies under the Required Standards (.100 and .200 series), 0 repeat deficiencies under the Required Standards, 0 deficiencies under the Recommended Standards (.300 series), and 1 repeat deficiency under the Recommended Standards.

Overview

Section 1 provides details of all deficiencies, including repeat deficiencies, found during the inspection. These are categorized by Required Standards, Recommended Standards, or additional applicable regulatory standards.

Section 2 provides information on areas that EHRS found to be compliant.

Section 3 documents the areas that EHRS did not inspect.

Section 4 provides information on submitting a Plan of Correction for the identified deficiencies.

Section 5 outlines observations and recommendations related to the inspection.

SECTION 1: Health and Safety Deficiencies

Deficiencies under the Recommended Standards (.300 series)

1 repeat deficiency (indicated by an *) was found during the inspection:

Area	Regulation	Description of Regulation
1. Dorm Rooms	105 CMR 451.322*	Cell Size: Inadequate floor space in dorm rooms

SECTION 2: Areas Found to be in Compliance

EHRs inspected 19 additional areas of the facility which were found to be in compliance

SECTION 3: Areas EHRs did not Inspect

EHRs did not inspect 2 areas of the facility because they were locked, in use, or under construction:

Area	Description
1. Community Room	Unable to Inspect – In Use
2. Dining Room	Unable to Inspect – In Use

SECTION 4: Plan of Correction

This facility does not comply with the Department's regulations cited above. In accordance with 105 CMR 451.404, please submit a plan of correction within 10 working days of receipt of this notice which includes:

1. Specific corrective steps to be taken
2. A timetable for the corrective actions for larger projects
3. The date by which correction will be achieved
4. Any interim measures being implemented to ensure the health and safety of incarcerated individuals and facility staff
5. A signature by the Superintendent or Administrator responsible for the plan. The signed plan should be submitted to my attention, at the address listed above.

SECTION 5: Observations and Recommendations

1. The inmate population was 22 at the time of inspection.

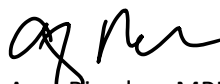
To review the specific regulatory requirements, please visit the [Massachusetts Department of Public Health Regulatory and Compliance Unit](#) and [read the minimum health and sanitation standards for correctional facilities](#) available in both PDF and RTF formats. For more specific information about the food standards, you can [download the merged food code](#).

An inspection may also include observations of other conditions which could constitute a threat to the health or safety of inmates or employees, including but not limited to the standards set forth by the Department as follows, and report on such pursuant to 451.402(B). You can use these links below to review these standards:

- [105 CMR 205.000: Minimum Standards Governing Medical Records and Conduct of Physical Examinations in Correctional Facilities](#)
- [105 CMR 480.000: Minimum requirements for the Management of Medical or Biological Waste](#)
- [105 CMR 500.000: Good Manufacturing Practices for Food](#)

This inspection report is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Sincerely,



Amy Riordan, MPH
Deputy Director, EHRs, BCEH



Essex County Sheriff's Department

197 Elm Street Rear
Salisbury, MA 01952



Kevin F. Coppinger
Sheriff

Telephone 978-750-1900
www.essexsheriffma.org

Heidi Mora
Superintendent

June 26, 2026

Amy Riordan, Environmental Health Inspector, MPH, BCEH, EHRS, Senior Advisor
Department of Public Health
67 Forest Street, Suite #100
Marlborough, MA 01752

Re: Women In Transition-Plan of Correction

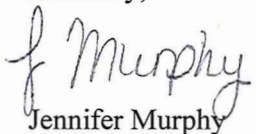
Dear Ms. Riordan,

This letter is in response to your correspondence regarding the Department of Public Health's June 18, 2026 inspection of the Women in Transition (WIT) Facility in Salisbury, MA and the follow-up response received on June 26, 2026 requesting further action.

In section 1, deficiencies under the recommended standard (.300 series) had 1 repeat deficiencies. The deficiency was "Dorm rooms 105 CMR 451.322, inadequate floor space in dorm rooms." While the dorm rooms at the Women in Transition have 4 bunks to a room, typically we only have 3 inmates to a room. Also, the women are allowed to move freely throughout the day and have access to multiple multipurpose areas and outside areas.

I hope that we have satisfactorily addressed your concerns. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Jennifer Murphy

Assistant Superintendent

Sheriff Kevin F. Coppinger

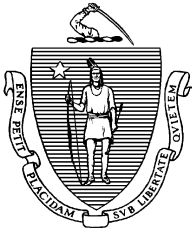
(electronic copy)

Heidi Mora, Superintendent

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Re: Plan of Correction – Essex County Women in Transition, Salisbury

Dear Sheriff Coppinger:

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS) has received your Plan of Correction in response to my inspection on June 18, 2026. After review, the EHRS finds the plan addresses all the deficiencies noted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'ARiordan'.

Amy Riordan, MPH
Deputy Director, EHRS, BCEH

cc: Heidi Mora, Superintendent
Jennifer Murphy, Deputy Superintendent
Lieutenant Robert Raymond, EHSO

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