

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

Kiame Mahaniah, MD, MBA
Secretary

Kimberley Driscoll
Lieutenant Governor

Robert Goldstein, MD, PhD
Commissioner

September 11, 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)
Michael Beland, Environmental Health and Safety Officer (electronic copy)

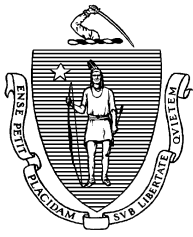
Greetings,

Pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403, please find the Heat Audit report for MCI Framingham.

Sincerely,

Hannah LeBeau
Environmental Analyst, EHRS, BCEH

cc: Robert Goldstein, MD, PhD, Commissioner, DPH (electronic copy)
Gina K. Kwon, Secretary, Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (electronic copy)
Bill Murphy, Health Director, Framingham Board of Health (electronic copy)
Brianna Arruda, Director, Policy Development and Compliance Unit (electronic copy)
Ryan Donlon, Superintendent (electronic copy)



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
250 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108-4619
617-624-6000 | mass.gov/dph

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Secretary

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Commissioner

July 14, 2026

Ryan Donlon, Superintendent
MCI Framingham
99 Loring Road
Framingham, MA (electronic copy)

Re: Heat Audit of Health Services Unit – MCI Framingham

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (Department) Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS), in accordance with 105 CMR 451.401 and 105 CMR 451.408, may conduct inspections, referred to as heat audits, at correctional facilities in response to complaint allegations during periods of extreme heat. In response to a complaint allegation regarding extreme heat, EHRS staff conducted a heat audit of the Health Services Unit at MCI Framingham on July 2, 2026, accompanied by Officer Michael Beland, Environmental Health and Safety Officer.

Heat audits are conducted to assess the conditions and mitigation protocols within correctional facilities during periods of extreme heat. A heat audit includes the:

1. Assessment and confirmation of reported mitigation protocols that the facility has implemented to address extreme heat, including:
 - a. Availability of ice and water;
 - b. Access to personal fans;
 - c. Locations of existing secondary ventilation sources (openable windows, wall mounted fans, and stationary floor fans);
 - d. Access to showers;
 - e. Access to outdoor areas (when natural shade is not available, artificial shaded areas should be created with canopies); and
 - f. Ability to conduct internal proactive air temperature and relative humidity testing.
2. Identification of Health and Safety deficiencies that may impact air recirculation and cooling.
3. Confirmation of functional mechanical ventilation, where available.
4. Temperature and Relative Humidity measurements within the housing units, health services unit, or other areas of concern.

Complaint Allegation:

On July 1, 2026 the EHRS received a complaint from Prisoner's Legal Service (PLS) regarding extreme heat, lack of air conditioning, non-functioning air conditioning, lack of ventilation, and lack of access to ice and/or water. PLS specifically asked that we prioritize locations where vulnerable populations are housed, such as in nursing and mental health units.

Overview

Section 1 identifies the unhealthy heat mitigation protocols implemented by the facility at the time of the audit.

Section 2 identifies any health and safety deficiencies identified during the inspection.

Section 3 provides information on submitting a Plan of Correction for any identified deficiencies.

Section 4 identifies the areas in which the air temperature and relative humidity measurements were taken by Indoor Air Quality (IAQ), along with the results of those measurements.

Section 5 outlines observations and recommendations related to the heat audit.

SECTION 1: Confirmed Mitigation Protocols

During the Heat Audit, EHRS staff observed the following measures taken by the facility to mitigate the extreme heat:

- Cooling towels and shorts were available to incarcerated individuals
- Industrial sized and personal misting fans were observed
- Ice and water were available
- Wall mounted and standing fans were observed
- Air conditioning was operational in the Health Services Unit (HSU)
- Frozen treats were being distributed to incarcerated individuals
- Outdoor time was limited to avoid the hottest part of the day
- The facility confirmed that air temperature readings were being taken 3 times a day
- 2 mini-splits were recently installed in the Intensive Treatment Unit (ITU)

SECTION 2: Health and Safety Deficiencies

EHRS did not note any deficiencies related to 105 CMR 451.000.

SECTION 3: Plan of Correction

A plan of correction is not required.

SECTION 4: Heat Audit Results for Air Temperature and Relative Humidity

EHRS Staff audited the following locations to document the air temperature and relative humidity

Temperature Testing Log			
Time	Location	Temperature (°F)	Relative Humidity (%)
12:30 PM	Outside	98	42
12:35 PM	Main Entrance/Lobby	74	54
12:45 PM	Trap	72	60
12:52 PM	HSU Second Floor Day Room	79	55
12:53 PM	HSU Second Floor Hallway (Near Day Room)	78	57
12:54 PM	HSU Cell # 218	77	55
12:55 PM	HSU Second Floor Library	77	57
12:57 PM	HSU Cell # 210	77	62
1:00 PM	HSU Second Floor Hallway (Far End)	78	59
1:02 PM	HSU Cell # 205	77	62

Temperature Testing Log			
Time	Location	Temperature (°F)	Relative Humidity (%)
1:05 PM	HSU Stairway	80	66
1:07 PM	HSU First Floor Hallway	76	62
1:08 PM	HSU Cell # 101	76	61
1:10 PM	HSU Cell # 115 (Four Point Room)	80	69
1:13 PM	HSU Cell # 104	73	60
1:16 PM	HSU Cell # 111	71	63
1:20 PM	ITU Second Floor Hallway	79	62
1:21 PM	ITU Cell # 9	83	64
1:23 PM	ITU Cell # 4	80	60
1:25 PM	ITU Cell # 13	77	63
1:30 PM	ITU Second Floor Hallway (Far End)	77	68
1:35 PM	Laurel Cottage (LC) Common Area	79	67
1:37 PM	LC Center/Main Wing Area	84	60
1:38 PM	LC Cell # 10	84	59
1:40 PM	LC Wing C (Far End)	81	64
1:42 PM	LC Cell # 26	81	69
2:00 PM	Outside	100	41

SECTION 5: Observations and Recommendations

1. At the time of the audit, the EHRS requested a copy of the facility's Unhealthy Heat Management Plan.
2. Position portable and personal fans to direct air-conditioned air from mini-splits to non-air-conditioned areas in the facility while keeping windows closed to prevent the entrance of hot, humid air into the space.

During periods of extreme heat, there is the potential for an increase in detrimental health conditions (e.g., heat stress, heat stroke) among facility staff and incarcerated individuals within the Commonwealth's correctional system. During future heat events, EHRS recommends the continued implementation of the heat mitigation measures that were observed during the heat audit. If you do not have a copy of the Heat Management Plan, please contact me at the address listed above.

Sincerely,



Hannah LeBeau
Environmental Health Officer, EHRS, BCEH