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

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)
	Mark George, Environmental Health and Safety Officer	(electronic copy)
	Ryan Carney, Environmental Health and Safety Officer	(electronic copy)

Greetings,

Pursuant to 105 CMR 451.403, please find the Heat Audit report for Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center, the Plan of Correction (POC) from the facility and the POC acceptance letter from the Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS).

Sincerely,

Hannah LeBeau

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)
	James Garreffi, RS, CHO, Director, Nashoba Associated Boards of Health	(electronic copy)
	Brianna Arruda, Director, Policy Development and Compliance Unit	(electronic copy)
	Stacey Butkowski, 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

Maura T. Healey
Governor

Kimberley Driscoll
Lieutenant Governor

Kiame Mahaniah, MD, MBA
Secretary

Robert Goldstein, MD, PhD
Commissioner

July 14, 2026

Stacey Butkowski, Superintendent
Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center
P.O. Box 8000
Shirley, MA 01464 (electronic copy)

Re: Heat Audit – Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center (SBCC), Shirley

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 SBCC, as part of the bi-annual inspection, on June 15, 2026, accompanied by Sergeant Mark George, 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 June 12, 2026 the EHRS received a complaint from Prisoner’s Legal Service (PLS) regarding extreme heat, lack of air conditioning, lack of ventilation, inadequate heat mitigation and related health issues in Units N1, N2, and P2 at SBCC.

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:

- There were cambros of water in the housing units.
- Shorter, but more frequent, rec time scheduling to increase time out of cells.
- In Unit N1 and N2 there were small personal fans in use in staff areas.

SECTION 2: Health and Safety Deficiencies

Deficiencies under the Required Standards (.100 and .200 series)
4 new deficiencies were found during the inspection:

	Area	Sub Area	Regulation	Description of Deficiency
1.	Main Kitchen	Ice Machine	105 CMR 451.200	Maintenance and Operation; Premises, Structure, Attachments, and Fixtures - Methods: Non-functional equipment not repaired or removed from premises, right side ice machine out-of-order. Standard found in 105 CMR 590; FC 6-501.114(A).
2.	N2-P2 Pod	Housing Units	105 CMR 451.140	Adequate Ventilation: Inadequate ventilation, HVAC system not functioning properly in unit # N2 and P2
3.	N1-P1 Pod	Housing Units	105 CMR 451.140	Adequate Ventilation: Inadequate ventilation, HVAC system not functioning properly in unit # N1

SECTION 3: 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 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 (%)
8:30 AM	Outside	70	71
8:31 AM	Main Entrance/Lobby	72	56
9:55 AM	Trap	72	56
10:00 AM	P2 Rec Deck	76	57
10:00 AM	P2 Officer’s Station	74	57
10:05 AM	P2 Lower Tier Right Front Cell Area	77	57
10:06 AM	P2 Lower Tier Right Middle Cell Area	77	57
10:06 AM	P2 Lower Tier Right Back Cell Area	78	56
10:07 AM	P2 Cell 14	78	56
10:10 AM	P2 Lower Tier Middle Back Shower Area	78	55
10:15 AM	P2 Lower Tier Left Back Cell Area	79	54
10:16 AM	P2 Lower Tier Left Middle Cell Area	78	55
10:17 AM	P2 Lower Tier Left Front Cell Area	78	55
10:22 AM	P2 Upper Tier Right Front Cell Area	78	56
10:24 AM	P2 Upper Tier Right Middle Cell Area	78	56
10:24 AM	P2 Upper Tier Right Back Cell Area	78	56
10:24 AM	P2 Upper Tier Middle Back Shower Area	78	56
10:30 AM	P2 Upper Tier Left Back Cell Area	78	55
10:32 AM	P2 Upper Tier Left Middle Cell Area	77	55
10:36 AM	P2 Upper Tier Left Front Cell Area	78	55
10:43 AM	Main Hallway Staff Break Room	73	52
10:45 AM	Kitchen Main Area	73	54
10:49 AM	Kitchen Dishwasher Room	72	57
10:59 AM	Inmate Dining Room	73	56
11:04 AM	Kitchen Serving Line North Side	75	53
11:14 AM	Kitchen Serving Line South Side	75	52
11:17 AM	Kitchen Kettle Area	75	55
11:23 AM	Kitchen Pots and Pans Area	74	54
11:41 AM	Kitchen Bakery	74	54
12:00 PM	Inside Warehouse (Level 1)	75	52
12:15 PM	Outside Dumpster Area	80	48
12:30 PM	EHSO Office	77	49
12:50 PM	N1 Officer’s Station	75	52
12:54 PM	N1 Lower Tier Right Front Cell Area	74	53
12:55 PM	N1 Lower Tier Right Middle Cell Area	74	53
12:56 PM	N1 Lower Tier Right Back Cell Area	74	54
12:56 PM	N1 Lower Tier Middle Back Shower Area	74	53
12:57 PM	N1 Lower Tier Left Back Cell Area	74	53
12:58 PM	N1 Lower Tier Left Middle Cell Area	74	53
12:58 PM	N1 Lower Tier Left Front Cell Area	74	52
1:12 PM	N1 Cell 30 (strong airflow from supply vent and strong suction from exhaust vent)	74	52
1:18 PM	N1 Upper Tier Right Front Cell Area	74	52
1:18 PM	N1 Upper Tier Right Middle Cell Area	74	52
1:18 PM	N1 Upper Tier Right Back Cell Area	74	52

Time	Location	Temperature (°F)	Relative Humidity (%)
1:20 PM	N1 Upper Tier Back Middle Shower Area	74	52
1:23 PM	N1 Upper Tier Left Middle Cell Area	74	52
1:24 PM	N1 Upper Tier Left Front Cell Area	74	52
1:24 PM	N1 Cell 59 (strong airflow from supply vent and strong suction from exhaust vent)	74	52
1:26 PM	N1 Hallway Outside Unit Entrance	73	52
1:35 PM	N2 Rec Deck	74	55
1:35 PM	N2 Officer's Station	72	53
1:39 PM	N2 Lower Tier Right Front Cell Area	73	51
1:40 PM	N2 Lower Tier Right Middle Cell Area	74	50
1:41 PM	N2 Lower Tier Right Back Cell Area	75	48
1:43 PM	N2 Lower Tier Middle Back Shower Area	75	48
1:44 PM	N2 Lower Tier Left Back Cell Area	75	48
1:44 PM	N2 Lower Tier Left Middle Cell Area	75	48
1:46 PM	N2 Lower Tier Left Front Cell Area	75	49
1:47 PM	N2 Upper Tier Right Front Cell Area	75	49
1:48 PM	N2 Upper Tier Right Middle Cell Area	74	49
1:48 PM	N2 Upper Tier Right Back Cell Area	75	50
1:50 PM	N2 Upper Tier Middle Back Shower Area	75	49
1:50 PM	N2 Upper Tier Left Back Cell Area	75	49
1:51 PM	N2 Upper Tier Left Middle Cell Area	75	49
1:52 PM	N2 Upper Tier Left Front Cell Area	75	49
1:54 PM	N2 Hallway Outside Unit Entrance	73	49
2:06 PM	Inmate Dining Area	73	52
2:30 PM	Outside	84	40

Temperature Testing Log

SECTION 5: Observations and Recommendations

1. For security reasons:
   a. N1 rec deck was unable to be accessed in order to take an air temperature;
   b. The rec recks and showers had limited access to prevent different groups from interacting;
   c. Fans and cooling towels were not provided; and
   d. Misting fans were not provided.
2. Ice was not observed in the cambros of water in the units and the water temperature was recorded at 70°F.
3. The contracted vendor was on-site working to repair the HVAC system at the time of the audit.
4. Rec time is provided separately to designated groups of individuals within each housing unit and is divided by outdoor and indoor rec. During indoor rec time, incarcerated individuals are permitted to use the showers.
5. EHRS recommended placing cambros of water on the rec decks when they are in use.
6. Utilizing the On-Site Unhealthy Heat Management plan will prove to be instrumental in planning, preparing identifying and monitoring site specific risks at SBCC. This plan was designed to help ensure each correctional facility is prepared to manage extreme heat, even those institutions that are fully air conditioned, like SBCC.

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. Minimal heat mitigation measures were observed during the heat audit. While recognizing potential safety concerns, EHRS recommends SBCC consider additional mitigation efforts during future heat events. In addition, EHRS recommends you refer to and implement the On-Site Unhealthy Heat Management Plan for Correctional Facilities. If you do not have a copy of the Heat Management Plan, please contact me at the address listed above.

Sincerely,

Hannah LeBeau

Hannah LeBeau
Environmental Health Officer, EHRS, BCEH

MAURA T. HEALEY
Governor

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
Lieutenant Governor

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety & Security
Department of Correction
Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center
P.O. Box 8000
Shirley, Massachusetts 01464
Tel: (978) 514-6500
Fax: (978) 514-6529
www.mass.gov/doc

GINA K. KWON
Secretary

SHAWN P. JENKINS
Commissioner

Hannah LeBeau, Environmental Health Officer, EHRS, BCEH
Executive Office of Health & Human Services
Department of Public Health
250 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02108

Re: Heat Audit – Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center (SBCC)

Dear Ms. LeBeau,

Please see the plan of correction below from the Heat Audit for complaints received by your office on June12, 2026.

Deficiencies under the Required Standards (.100 and .200 series)
4 new deficiencies were found during the inspection:

	Area	Sub Area	Regulation	Description of Deficiency
1.	Main Kitchen	Ice Machine	105 CMR 451.200	Maintenance and Operation; Premises, Structure, Attachments, and Fixtures - Methods: Non-functional equipment not repaired or removed from premises, right side ice machine out-of-order. Standard found in 105 CMR 590; FC 6-501.114(A). Plan of Correction: The ice machine was replaced on Monday, July 20, 2026 by outside vendor and is now fully operational.
2.	N2-P2 Pod	Housing Units	105 CMR 451.140	Adequate Ventilation: Inadequate ventilation, HVAC system not functioning properly in unit # N2 and P2 Plan of Correction: Plan of Correction: A supplemental HVAC unit was installed in the North Yard on June 30, 2026, to provide interim

			cooling in the affected areas. The replacement coil required to permanently address the HVAC issue was received on July 7, 2026. Due to ongoing heat mitigation efforts throughout the summer and the effectiveness of the supplemental unit, it was determined that the coil replacement would be scheduled for September, when seasonal temperatures are expected to be cooler. Additionally, a grated door was installed in the North 1 Mechanical Room to improve airflow and help maintain appropriate temperatures within the room.
3. N1-P1 Pod	Housing Units	105 CMR 451.140	Adequate Ventilation: Inadequate ventilation, HVAC system not functioning properly in unit # N1 Plan of Correction: Plan of Correction: A supplemental HVAC unit was installed in the North Yard on June 30, 2026, to provide interim cooling in the affected areas. The replacement coil required to permanently address the HVAC issue was received on July 7, 2026. Due to ongoing heat mitigation efforts throughout the summer and the effectiveness of the supplemental unit, it was determined that the coil replacement would be scheduled for September, when seasonal temperatures are expected to be cooler. Additionally, a grated door was installed in the North 1 Mechanical Room to improve airflow and help maintain appropriate temperatures within the room.

If you require additional information or have further questions please feel free to contact the facility.

Sincerely,

Stacey Butkowski,
Superintendent

cc: Brian Dickhaut, Deputy Superintendent
Nolan Griffiths, FSA
Sgt. Mark George, EHSO/FSO
File

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
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July 23, 2026

Stacey Butkowski, Superintendent
Souza Baranowski Correctional Center
100 Harvard Road
Shirley, MA 01464 (electronic copy)

Re: Heat Audit Plan of Correction – Souza Baranowski Correctional Center, Shirley

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Division of Environmental Health Regulations and Standards (EHRS) has received your Plan of Correction in response to my Heat Audit conducted on June 12, 2026. After review, the EHRS finds the plan addresses all the deficiencies noted in the report.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter, should you have any questions please contact me at the address listed above.

Sincerely,

Hannah LeBeau

Hannah LeBeau
Environmental Health Officer, EHRS, BCEH

cc: Sergeant Mark George, EHSO
Ryan Carney, EHSO