



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Environmental Health  
Community Sanitation Program  
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December 10, 2019

Kevin F. Coppinger, Sheriff  
Essex County Sheriff's Department Headquarters  
20 Manning Avenue  
Middleton, MA 01949 (electronic copy)

Re: Plan of Correction – Essex County Correctional Facility, Middleton

Dear Sheriff Coppinger:

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Community Sanitation Program (CSP) has received your Plan of Correction in response to my inspection on Essex County Correctional Facility. After review, the CSP finds the plan appropriately addresses all of the violations noted in the report with the following exceptions:

1. Your Plan of Correction states that several repairs required within the 80 Building are waiting for architectural approval before going out to bid. The CSP appreciates the information regarding these repairs; however we cannot approve any items that do not identify a reasonable time frame for repair. Please provide an estimated start and completion date for this project. The CSP would also like to be informed of your facilities interim measures you have implemented to ensure the health and safety of inmates and staff in these areas.
2. In regards to the insufficient number of handwash sinks and toilets within Voke 1, your Plan of Correction states you are attempting to reduce the inmate population in this unit. The CSP requests an estimated date of completion.
3. In regards to the issue of overcrowding, the CSP appreciates the limitations of Correctional facilities and the need to accommodate the ever-increasing population; however we remain concerned with the overcrowded conditions.
4. Your Plan of Correction states that water temperatures and room temperatures were adjusted throughout the facility. Please confirm that all handwash sinks, showers, and room temperatures are within regulatory requirements.

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

Sincerely,



Kerry Wagner, MPH  
Environmental Health Inspector, CSP, BEH

cc: Monica Bharel, MD, MPH, Commissioner, DPH  
Jana Ferguson, Director, BEH  
Steven Hughes, Director, CSP, BEH  
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