



HENRY McMASTER, Governor
BRYAN P. STIRLING, Director

August 28, 2023

Mr. Leonardo Brown
Richland County Administrator
Post Office Box 192
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Re: Richland County (Alvin S. Glenn) Detention Center
Technical Assistance Security Audit Report

Dear Mr. Brown:

This is a follow-up to the report about our security audit which was recently conducted at the Richland County (Alvin S. Glenn) Detention Center. We offered to provide that technical assistance so that you would be more fully informed of the conditions and challenges which are currently in place at your local detention facility. After you notified me that you wished to take advantage of this opportunity, we assembled a team of Agency employees who have experience and unique knowledge related to security and operations. Under the leadership of our Director of Security and Emergency Operations, that audit team initially prepared and then spent July 26-27, 2023, at Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center. I was also present and saw/heard firsthand those same things encountered by team members. The audit report you have been given is documentation of findings from that site visit and review.

It should come as no surprise that some conditions at your Detention Center are in need of immediate attention and improvement. We have notified you and County Council previously as part of our inspections and other communications about violations of the Minimum Standards for Local Detention Facilities in South Carolina, and you have already responded in regard to efforts and plans for progress in certain areas. Our audit team used that very same edition of the Minimum Standards as a template for planning their site visit so as to concentrate primarily on security related expectations within a County Jail. Therefore, it is only natural that there would be some overlap between the audit findings and our separate ongoing inspections which identify violations of Standards. Routine inspections will continue to take place and be documented, but the security audit was a unique special service provided to Richland County. Nevertheless, we do have a need to receive feedback on actions taken in response to the audit findings and also to monitor the conditions going forward in order to confirm improvement and corrective action.

Please submit a written response on or before September 28, 2023, on the status of your progress for each item identified within the audit report. For your convenience, the attachment to this letter indicates those matters which we believe require the most immediate attention and a few more of them which ought to be correctable prior to that deadline. In addition to elaborating

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on what has been done to address those particular issues, and any others that have been resolved by that point in time, please also include your proposed timetable for correcting all remaining items. If you require clarification on anything, do not hesitate to let me know.

We are glad that you decided to use the resources we offered to conduct a comprehensive security evaluation. This technical assistance audit required considerable staff time by SCDC employees who visited your Detention Center and then used both photographs and their notes to prepare the report for your benefit. I am confident that you will now use the information in it for improving the safety of your community, your employees, and the inmates who will be detained within the Alvin S. Glenn Detention Center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Blake E. Taylor, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Blake E. Taylor, Jr., Division Director
Compliance, Standards, and Inspections

BETJr/rbs

Attachment