Department of Human Services
Office of Children, Youth and Families
Licensing Inspection Summary - Public
55 PA.CODE CHAPTER 3800

July 18, 2025

[redacted], EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PHILADELPHIA JUVENILE JUSTICE SERVICES
91 N 48TH STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA, 19139

RE: PHILADELPHIA JUVENILE JUSTICE SERVICES CENTER
91 N 48TH STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA, 19139
LICENSE/COC#: 13910

Dear [redacted]

As a result of the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth and Families review on of the above facility, we have determined that your submitted plan of correction is fully implemented. Continued compliance must be maintained.

Please note that you are required to post this Licensing Inspection Summary at your facility in a conspicuous location.

Sincerely,
[redacted]
HSPR1

cc: Pennsylvania Office of Children, Youth and Families

Agency/Facility Information

Name: *PHILADELPHIA JUVENILE JUSTICE SERVICES CENTER*
License Number: *13910*
Address: *91 N 48TH STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19139*
License Expiration: *09/27/2025*
County: *PHILADELPHIA*

Administrator

Name: [redacted] **Phone**: [redacted] **Email**: [redacted]

Legal Entity

Name: *PHILADELPHIA JUVENILE JUSTICE SERVICES*
Address: *91 N 48TH STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA, 19139*
Phone: [redacted] **Email**: [redacted]

Inspection Information

Start Date: *01/28/2025* **End Date**: *04/09/2025* **Type**: *Complaint* **Notice**: *Announced Visit*
Inspector(s): [redacted]

Inspection Narrative

The Department recently completed its investigation into the circumstances involving the January 10, 2025 riot that occurred at the PJJSC. This investigation was extended in time as a result of the Department awaiting disclosure of records and information requested over the course of its investigation. The violations identified below are the result of the Department's completion of its investigation into the riot.

Inspections / Reviews

01/28/2025 Complaint

Lead Inspector: [redacted] **Follow-Up Type**: *POC Submission* **Follow-Up Date**: *05/12/2025*

05/27/2025 - POC Submission

Submitted By: [redacted] **Date Submitted**: *06/02/2025*
Reviewer: [redacted] **Follow-Up Type**: *POC Submission* **Follow-Up Date**: *06/02/2025*

06/23/2025 - POC Submission

Reviewer: [redacted] **Follow Up Type**: *On site Verification* **Follow Up Date**: *07/01/2025*

06/23/2025 On site Verification

Submitted By: [redacted] **Date Submitted**: *06/02/2025*
Reviewer: [redacted] **Follow Up Type**: *Not Required*

3800.15 Child Abuse

1. Requirements

3800.15.b. If there is an allegation of child abuse involving facility staff persons, the facility shall submit and implement a plan of supervision in accordance with 23 Pa.C.S. § 6368 (relating to investigation of reports) and § 3490.56 (relating to county agency investigation of suspected child abuse perpetrated by persons employed or supervised by child care services and residential facilities).

Description of Violation

On March 26, 2025, the facility failed to submit and implement a plan of supervision in accordance with the Child Protective Services Law. On this date, staff person A attended an event at the facility in which children were present. Video records show staff person A moving about the facility unaccompanied/ unsupervised, allowing for direct contact with the residents at the PJJSC in violation of the plan of safety.

Plan of Correction ***Directed ([redacted] - 06/23/2025)***

The term "direct contact with children" is defined by the CPSL at 23 Pa.C.S.A. § 6303 as "The care, supervision, guidance or control of children or routine interaction with children. This would mean that Staff Person A's contact with the children, in terms of greeting, interacting, or in close proximity to children would be part of routine interaction. All staff, regardless of position (administrative or direct care) should be held to the same standards while on a plan of safety. All plans of safety should include perimeters of contact and must be approved or amended by PA DHS.

Proposed Overall Completion Date: 07/01/2025

Directed Completion Date: *07/01/2025*

On-site Verification ***Implemented ([redacted] - 07/08/2025)***

The Agency has implemented their policy that all staff who are on a plan of safety will be restricted from entering the secure side of the building or having direct contact with children. This policy will encompass all staff regardless of position and will remain in force unless approved or amended by PA DHS.

3800.32 Specific Rights

2. Requirements

3800.32.k. A child has the right to appropriate medical, behavioral health and dental treatment.

Description of Violation

On [redacted] child A did not receive the appropriate medical treatment or evaluation for injuries received during the restraint on [redacted]. Child A did not receive medical attention until [redacted] days after the tape review, when a child abuse report was also called into the hotline on the same day. Child A did not receive medical attention until January 28, despite staff person A's assertions that all children were medically assessed on the day of the incident.

Plan of Correction ***Accept ([redacted] - 05/16/2025)***

JJS will re-issue the protocol that requires youth involved in a physical restraint, physical altercation and/or assault to have a medical assessment.

Shift Managers are required to conduct their rounds during every tour and during their rounds, Shift Managers will do the following:

- *a. Engage every youth that has been in or are currently in a restrictive procedure to ensure youth have been evaluated by medical, if needed, to assess for any injuries or illness.*

3800.32 Specific Rights (continued)

- *b. Document the encounter in their end of tour report.*

The Residential Director (RD) will provide oversight of the Shift manager to ensure compliance.

The PJJSC Social worker will continue their existing practice of completing Incident Interviews post incidents that involve restraints, physical altercations, &/or assaults to ensure that youth are receiving any supports needed more specifically receive a medical evaluation to assess for injuries or illness. JDC Supervisors will conduct the interviews and ensure any necessary follow up in lieu of the Social Worker when there are no Social Workers on duty. The PJJSC Social Work Supervisor will provide oversight for compliance.

Licensee's Proposed Overall Completion Date: *07/01/2025*

On site Verification ***Implemented ([redacted] - 07/08/2025)***

PJJSC has reissued the protocol requiring youth involved in a physical restraint or altercation to have a medical assessment. Case managers are following up with and documenting all contact with shift managers and children to ensure youth have been evaluations by medical and to assess for any injuries/ illness. Documentation is available for review.

3800.53 Director

3. Requirements

3800.53.b. The director shall be responsible for administration and management of the facility, including the safety and protection of the children, implementation of policies and procedures and compliance with this chapter.

Description of Violation

3800.53 (b) The director shall be responsible for administration and management of the facility, including the safety and protection of the children, implementation of policies and procedures and compliance with this chapter. On January 10th, staff person A failed to implement the policies and procedures of this chapter as well as PJJSC policies relating to building security: e.g. failed to ensure that all visitors authorized signed the authorized log so that security had a complete record of each entrance/ departure. Failed to ensure that security checked the gate entrance/ deliveries during ring delivery / set up; failed to ensure that visitors who entered the facility had proper photo identification; allowed children to enter the facility who were under the age of 12; failed to ensure that staff/ visitors were not advertising or posting the event on social media.

Plan of Correction ***Directed ([redacted] - 06/23/2025)***

The agency will provide documentation that policies have been in place are being implemented. This will include sign in sheets, monitoring logs, delivery logs and copies of memos/ staff write ups for posting of events on social media.

Proposed Overall Completion Date: 07/01/2025

Directed Completion Date: *07/01/2025*

On-site Verification ***Implemented ([redacted] - 07/08/2025)***

PJJSC is reinforcing implementation of policies regarding sign in sheets, monitoring and delivery logs. PJJSC is engaging in discussions/ staff meetings to reinforce the County employee social media policy regarding posting of events/ incidents.

3800.205 Staff Training

4. Requirements

3800.205.a. If restrictive procedures are used, each staff person who administers a restrictive procedure shall have completed training within the past year in the use of restrictive procedures.

Description of Violation

On [redacted], staff person B administered a restrictive procedure on several children but had not completed training within the past year in the use of restrictive procedures. This violation is in addition to the previous citations. Following full receipt and access to video footage of all areas of the gym, there were multiple restraints that demonstrated inappropriate uses of restrictive procedures. Several of the instances stand out: for example, Staff Person B, who is not employed by PJJSC but is engaged as a contracted provider, engaged in at least 3 separate instances where he initiated restraints, assisted or restricted children in violation of this regulation. Additionally, an unknown bystander, who appears to be standing in front of his child trying to protect her, assisted in a restrictive procedure used by a staff person in order to protect his child.

Plan of Correction ***Accept ([redacted] - 05/16/2025)***

DHS will issue a memo to all PJJSC subcontracted programming providers to refrain from engaging in restraints, and provide information about who to alert in the event of any physical altercations and/or assaults.

Licensee's Proposed Overall Completion Date: *07/01/2025*

On-site Verification ***Implemented ([redacted] - 07/08/2025)***

Memo distributed and provided for review.

3800.213 Restrictive Procedure Records

5. Requirements

3800.213. A record of each use of a restrictive procedure, including the emergency use of a restrictive procedure, shall be kept and shall include the following:

1. The specific behavior addressed.
2. The methods of intervention used to address the behavior less intrusive than the procedure used.
3. The date and time the procedure was used.
4. The specific procedure used.
5. The staff person who used the procedure.
6. The duration of the procedure.
7. The staff person who observed the child.
8. The child's condition following the removal of the procedure.

Description of Violation

Following review of the footage provided on 03/19/25 and 04/04/2025 it was discovered there were multiple incidents of improper restraints/ restrictive procedures which were not reported, and which were not included in restrictive procedure records or incident reports kept by the facility.

Plan of Correction ***Directed ([redacted] - 06/23/2025)***

The Agency will develop a system that ensures all video is reviewed in real time and all incidents are reported and disseminated to shift managers and supervisors for further investigation. Documentation of reports will be submitted through ChildLine or HCSIS reporting systems and through calls to Regional Office.

Proposed Overall Completion Date: 07/01/2025

Directed Completion Date: *07/01/2025*

3800.213 Restrictive Procedure Records *(continued)*

On-site Verification ***Implemented ([redacted] - 07/09/2025)***

PJJSC has reinforced their system outlining he responsibility of shift managers and supervisors for reporting / investigating all incidents which occur in the units or in the facility. In addition, PJJSC is engaging central command staff to provide documentation of events (day/time) observed via camera or radio in which assistance needed was provided.

3800.274 Additional Requirements

6. Requirements

3800.274. The following additional requirements apply to facilities in which secure care is provided:

1. The facility shall have a valid fire safety occupancy approval appropriate for locked facilities from the appropriate authority, listing the type of occupancy, prior to receiving a certificate of compliance under this chapter.

Description of Violation

The facility did not provide a valid fire safety occupancy approval appropriate for locked facilities from the appropriate authority, listing the type of occupancy, prior to receiving a certificate of compliance under this chapter. The January 10th boxing event was held in the gym. No valid fire safety occupancy for this space was available. Further inquiries led to an estimate of the number of persons who could fit in that space, but the estimate included square footage taken by the boxing ring and surrounding equipment.

Plan of Correction ***Accept ([redacted] - 05/16/2025)***

JJS will apply for an occupancy placard for the PJJSC gymnasium from the City of Philadelphia, License and Inspection department. Proof of application will be provided to PA DHS.

Licensee's Proposed Overall Completion Date: *07/01/2025*

On site Verification ***Implemented ([redacted] - 07/08/2025)***

PJJSC has provided email of request.

8. Requirements

3800.274. The following additional requirements apply to facilities in which secure care is provided:

15. Items such as knives, razors, matches and tools, that may create an opportunity for use as a weapon or tool in an assault or other violent behavior may not be accessible to a child whose health and safety assessment specified in § 3800.141 indicates known incidents of aggressive or violent behavior, except during specific activities while these items are in use and the child is under direct supervision by staff persons.

Description of Violation

On January 10th, items that may create an opportunity for use as a weapon or tool in an assault or other violent behavior were accessible to a children whose health and safety assessment indicated history of aggressive behavior. This included items brought in to the event, such as the hammer used to strike the bell as well as the chairs in which the residents were sitting. When the riot ensued, residents began using the chairs as weapons against each other and the staff. During the riot, the hammer sat on the table next to the bell, within reach of many of the residents presenting a danger to the health and safety of the residents and visitors.

Plan of Correction ***Directed ([redacted] - 06/23/2025)***

The facility will complete health and safety assessments for all children whose health and safety assessment indicated history of aggressive behavior. The facility will create a proactive plan which ensures that anything which can be used as a weapon is inaccessible to children. This may require individualized safety plans for children who attend events/ rotating the number/ units of children who may attend an event at any one time., providing one on one supervision / increased supervision for some children/ units.

3800.274 Additional Requirements (continued)

Proposed Overall Completion Date: 07/01/2025

Directed Completion Date: *07/01/2025*

On site Verification ***Implemented (- 07/18/2025)***

PJJSC is continuing the safety protocol of keep separate orders and environmental assessment. Shift managers and Supervisors continue oversight of units and incident responses in order to monitor the safety of non-combative and uninvolved youth.

3800.283 Additional Requirements

9. Requirements

3800.283. The following additional requirements apply to facilities in which secure detention is provided:
9. Staff persons shall have visual or auditory contact with children at all times.

Description of Violation

Due to the nature of riot, it was impossible for the staff to have visual or auditory contact with residents at all times. In review of the video footage, there were multiple examples of residents, roaming the gym without immediate supervision.

Plan of Correction ***Accept (- 05/16/2025)***

The Shift manager will assign a JDC Supervisor on every tour to respond to incidents in order to monitor non-combative and/or uninvolved youth. Shift manager will provide oversight to ensure compliance.

Licensee's Proposed Overall Completion Date: *07/01/2025*

On-site Verification ***Implemented (- 07/08/2025)***

Shift manager and Supervisory reports are available upon request.