



Escambia County Corrections



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Escambia County Corrections is to provide for the safe, secure, and humane housing of all inmates. This will be accomplished through professional staff who are trained in the dynamics of interpersonal skills, human diversity, the standards of law and the United States Constitution. We will approach our sworn duty with integrity, character, and fairness in the treatment of all inmates, the citizens we serve, and our fellow staff members.

VISION STATEMENT

“...To operate and manage the best jail in the State through performance, personnel, and practice. To become the place others look to for answers to tough questions...”

VALUE STATEMENTS

- To ensure prompt and courteous communication with the public.
- To treat all inmates with fairness and basic human dignity.
- To develop programs for the inmate population that will help reduce the taxpayer burden for incarceration and develop a work ethic for the inmate population.
- To develop self-enrichment programs for the inmate population that will provide instruction in basic life skills, anger management, and responsible parenthood.
- To implement minimal educational programs will provide for the development of reading skills and writing skills to enable a person to obtain gainful employment upon release from jail.
- To ensure that the operation of the Escambia County Corrections is both fiscally sound and cost effective, minimizing the impact on the taxpayer and maximizing alternative funding sources.

About Escambia County Corrections

Escambia County is the western-most county in the state of Florida, and is known as the Western Gate to the Sunshine State. Situated in Northwest Florida on the tip of the Florida Panhandle, Escambia County covers 662 square miles of land and 213 square miles of water. The county is bordered on the west and north by the state of Alabama on the east by Santa Rosa County and the south by the Gulf of Mexico. Escambia County Corrections is responsible for processing and housing all persons arrested out of Escambia County's nearly 300,000 residents.

Escambia County Corrections and its team of correctional officers and support personnel are responsible for the care, custody and control of over 1,300 inmates. These inmates are housed in the Main Jail on "L" Street and in the Central Booking & Detention facility located on Leonard Street. The vast majority of these inmates are awaiting trial on charges ranging from violation of probation to murder. Annually, Escambia County Corrections books and releases over 24,000 people.

On October 1st, 2013 The Escambia County Board of County Commissioners assumed responsibility for the Jail operations previously operated under the Escambia County Sheriff's Office and placed them under the supervision of the Escambia County Department of Corrections. The facilities now under the BCC are the Main Jail, the Central Booking & Detention Facility, and the Video Visitation Facility.

Escambia County Corrections is managed by Commander Brett Whitlock, who is the Jail Administrator, and an Assistant Jail Administrator. Each section is supervised by a 1st Lieutenant. Escambia County Corrections consists of three sections: Booking & Transportation, Central Booking & Detention (CBD), and Main Jail (MJ).

The leadership in place is committed to enhancing the professionalism of the Escambia County Corrections through efficient and effective use of resources.

BOOKING & TRANSPORTATION

The Booking & Transportation Section is supervised by a 1st Lieutenant. Booking & Transportation includes: Booking Shifts A, B, C and D; Court Services; Transportation; Inmate Property; Classification; and Inmate Records. These units are located in the Central Booking and Detention Facility.

MAIN JAIL

The Main Jail Section is supervised by a 1st Lieutenant. This section includes: MJ Housing Shifts A, B, C, and D; Inspections; E Shift; Projects; and inmate Work Crews

The Main Jail is the first of two facilities. Phase I was completed in 1982 and Phase II was completed in 1984. Renovation has been completed several times over the years with the last one in 2003.

- The Main Jail is a traditional podular jail facility.
- The Main Jail has 815 beds of which 36 are designated as infirmary, 17 as special housing, and 84 as administrative/disciplinary confinement.
- Medical and mental health services provided by nationally accredited staff.

CENTRAL BOOKING & DETENTION

The Central Booking & Detention Section (CBD) is supervised by a 1st Lieutenant. This section includes: CBD Housing Shifts A, B, C, D; Crisis Intervention; and Programs.

The Central Booking and Detention facility was opened for booking in December 1999, and housing in January 2000. The North Units were added in November 2000.

- CBD is a direct supervision facility. Direct supervision combines two key elements—the physical design of a jail and an inmate management strategy—to significantly reduce the problem inmate behavior commonly seen in jails. Direct supervision jails focus on actively managing inmate behavior to produce a jail that is safe and secure for inmates, staff, and visitors. Taxpayers are not anxious to spend more than they have to on jail operations, and rightly so. While a community's discretionary fiscal priorities generally do not include the jail, however, jail expenses cannot be avoided by neglect. Many communities have tried that strategy, only to find it far more costly in the long run. The Central Booking and Detention Facility is able to fulfill the mission of the jail while, at the same time, reduce costs.
- This facility has 711 beds of which 9 are designated as confinement and 118 as classification and intake.
- Ability to process bail for all Escambia County Jail inmates 24/7.
- Medical and mental health services provided by nationally accredited staff.

SPECIALIZED UNITS

The Central Services Unit, Health Services Unit, Training Unit, Accreditation, Public Records Unit, and Contract Services Unit report directly to the Assistant Jail Administrator.

The Central Services Unit is supervised by a Lieutenant. This unit includes: Video Visitation, Custodial Services, Laundry, and Warehouse & Supplies.

The Health Services Unit is managed by a Health Services Administrator. This unit is responsible for providing health care services to inmates.

The Training Unit is supervised by a Sergeant. This unit is responsible for providing or arranging training for Escambia County Corrections employees.

The Accreditation Unit is supervised by Accreditation Manager and Assistant Accreditation Manager. This unit is responsible for managing the accreditation program and scheduling required annual inspections.

The Public Records Unit is supervised by Records Supervisor. This unit is responsible for receiving and processing requests for records.

We have two areas which are managed by private companies. Our partner for Food Services and Commissary is Trinity Services.

Accreditations

An accreditation program has long been recognized as a means of maintaining the highest standards of professionalism. Accreditation is the certification by an independent reviewing authority that an entity has met specific requirements and prescribed standards. Escambia County Corrections is proud to have achieved and maintained both state and national accreditation standards.

Florida Corrections Accreditation Commission
Accredited in 2003, Reaccredited in 2006, 2009, 2013

National Commission on Correctional Health Care
Accredited in 2003, Reaccredited in 2006, 2010, and 2013