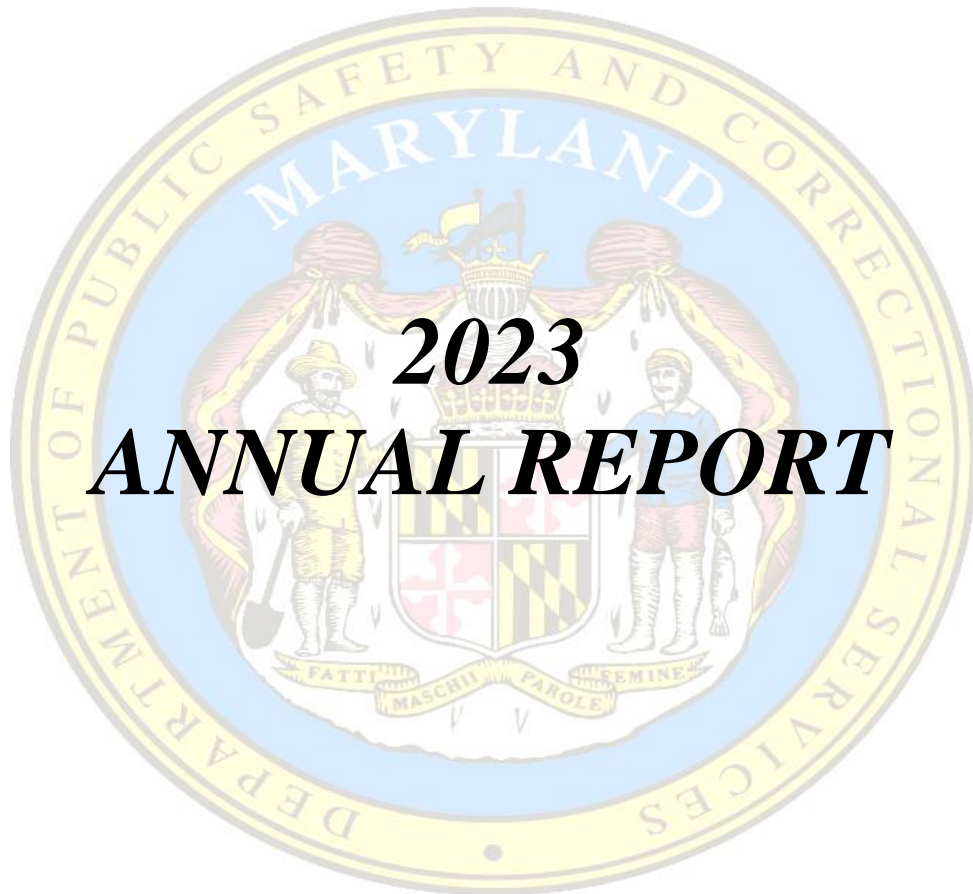




MARYLAND

Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

MARYLAND COMMISSION ON CORRECTIONAL STANDARDS



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

**Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor
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INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Correctional Services Article, Section §8-110, HB 11/Ch. 54, 1999, the Maryland Commission on Correctional Standards is required to submit an annual report on the Commission's activities. The bill language states: (a) The [Maryland] Commission [on Correctional Standards] shall report annually to the Governor and, subject to 2-1257 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly on the activities of the Commission (b) Secretary and Local Governments – The Commission shall provide the Secretary and the governing body of each county and municipal corporation that has a correctional facility with a copy of its annual report.

On or before November 15 of each year, the Commission on Correctional Standards shall submit an annual report to the Secretary and Governor on the activities of the Commission.

OVERVIEW

The Commission on Correctional Standards (Commission) collaborates with criminal justice organizations in the development, measurement, monitoring and enforcement of statewide correctional standards. The Commission provides quality compliance audits that are firm, fair, and consistent, to promote correctional standards as a best practice. The Commission develops correctional employees through its Duly Authorized Inspector training program and promotes accountability in correctional agencies' operations.

The Commission provides standards compliance audits for all local and state adult places of confinement. Commission staff develop audit reports for the Commission's review and approval, provide technical assistance to correct areas of non-compliance, monitor compliance plans, and takes other such actions necessary to ensure continued compliance. The Commission develops legislatively mandated standards, conducts reviews, and updates existing standards. Commission staff provide Duly Authorized Inspector training for local and state correctional staff, who assist in conducting standards compliance audits.

COMMISSION ACTIVITIES

Audits

The Commission has continued with the Remote Audit Process, adopted on January 28, 2021 by the Commission Board, to conduct remote and on-site audit activities for an audit. The agency accomplished 24 audits within fiscal year 2023. Based on facility type, agency and business, there were 9 Adult Detention Center, 5 Adult Correctional Institution, 1 Adult Community Correctional Facility, 1 DPSCS Agency and 8 Private Home Detention Monitoring Agency audits in total during the fiscal year.

The Recognition of Achievement is awarded to all facilities achieving 100% compliance, at the time of their initial audit or upon successful completion of a monitoring visit. The Recognition of Achievement continues to be a benchmark for correctional facilities in the state and represents a commitment to the standards and the audit process by managing officials. MCCS conducted audits of facilities, via a hybrid remote and onsite auditing method, in order to ensure facilities met the established correctional standards. Facilities that received this award are outlined on page four.

Duly Authorized Inspector Training (DAI)

The Commission held one, 8-hour Duly Authorized Inspector Training session, during FY 2023. The DAI Training was held on May 23, 2023 and consisted of 37 students. The Duly Authorized Inspector Program continues to be a vital part of the Commission's success with conducting and managing the audit schedule. The training enables individuals to assist their facilities in preparation for Commission audits and aids with achieving the highest level of compliance, with a greater understanding of the audit process. Trained Duly Authorized Inspectors enhance facility procedures and provide an additional tool by assisting with internal audits to assess compliance with the standards.

Fire Safety Officer Training

The 8-hour Fire Safety Officer Training was not held, during FY 2023. The training is conducted in collaboration with the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commission (PCTC), the State Fire Marshal's office and MCCS for prospective Fire Safety Officers. The candidates complete the course, are certified, and receive training credits through the PCTC. The objective of the training is to provide Fire Safety Officers with the information necessary to construct, implement and document an internal fire safety program. The Fire Safety Officer Training program is vital for the maintenance of fire safety devices, equipment, and systems for fire prevention.

COMMISSION ACTIVITIES (Cont'd)

Commission Meetings

The 12 member Commission includes nine persons appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate for three year terms. Correctional Services Article § 8-107 requires members to be appointed as follows: two citizen members; two state correctional officials; two local correctional officials; an elected official from a local government body; a member from the medical/mental health profession and an official of a national standards accrediting body. The Attorney General, Secretary of General Services, and Secretary of Budget and Management serve as ex-officio members of the Commission. The board meets on a quarterly basis at pre-determined correctional facilities in the state or virtually, via a videoconferencing platform. Commission meetings were held remotely, via videoconferencing, during FY 2023. The meetings consist of reviews of audit results including discussions with representatives from the audited facilities, the facilities' plans for corrective action, and appeals. Commission members review and approve updated standards, as well as, new standards mandated by the General Assembly.

277th Commission Meeting	September 29, 2022	Remote (Google Meet)
278th Commission Meeting	November 17, 2022	Remote (Google Meet)
279 th Commission Meeting	January 26, 2023	Remote (Google Meet)
280 th Commission Meeting	March 30, 2023	Remote (Google Meet)

The May 2023 Commission Meeting was not scheduled due to the Memorial Day holiday.

COMMISSION ACTIVITIES (Cont'd)

Recognition of Achievement Award

The following correctional facilities received the Recognition of Achievement award for FY 2023.

September 29, 2022	Roxbury Correctional Institution
September 29, 2022	Talbot County Department of Corrections
November 17, 2022	North Branch Correctional Institution
November 17, 2022	Wicomico County Department of Corrections
November 17, 2022	Howard County Department of Corrections
January 26, 2023	Calvert County Detention Center
January 26, 2023	Dorchester County Department of Corrections
January 26, 2023	Garrett County Detention Center
January 26, 2023	Harford County Detention Center
January 26, 2023	Worcester County Jail
March 30, 2023	Maryland Correctional Training Center/Annex

CONCLUSION

The Commission continues to work in collaboration with regulatory agencies and criminal justice organizations to support its mission in the development, measurement, monitoring, and enforcement of correctional standards. Compliance plan results for the fiscal year demonstrates a high level of commitment by managing officials, the Commission Board and staff, during the post-pandemic period. Reinstating consistent annual training activities in critical areas, such as, standards compliance and fire safety, with the addition of thorough quality correctional facility audits and regular Commission meeting reviews, should ensure statewide standards compliance, once the state returns to normal operations. Through leadership, partnership, communication and advocating the use of standards as a management tool, the Commission will work toward elevating the State of Maryland's correctional system, as a national model. Thank you for your support as we continue our commitment to carrying out our mission for the citizens of Maryland.

INSTITUTION NON-COMPLIANCE BREAKDOWN – 15TH CYCLE (JULY 2022 – JUNE 2023)

Institution	Date	TYPE	TC	C/P	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	TOTAL
Eastern Correctional Institution	July 12- 14, 2022	ACI		X		1	1						2
Maryland Correctional Training Center	July 19-21, 2022	ACI	X										
Central Maryland Correctional Facility	August 2-3, 2022	ACCF		X	5	1	1						7
St Mary County Detention & Rehabilitation Center	August 23-24, 2022	ADC		X	1		1						2
Montgomery County Correctional Facility	September 20-21, 2022	ADC		X		2	1					1	4
Maryland Correctional Institution Jessup	October 4-6, 2022	ACI	X										
Montgomery County Detention Center	October 18-19, 2022	ADC		X		2						1	3
Baltimore City Correctional Center	November 1-3, 2022	ACI		X	1	2							3
Caroline County Detention Center	December 6-7, 2022	ADC		X		1							1
Prince George County Department of Corrections	January 10-12, 2023	ADC		X	1	1	1			1			4
Washington County Detention Center	February 14-15, 2023	ADC		X	2		2						4
Somerset County Detention Center	March 7-8, 2023	ADC	X										
Dorchester County Detention Center	April 18-19, 2023	ADC	X										
Carroll County Detention Center	May 16-17, 2023	ADC	X										
Patuxent Institution	June 13-15, 2023	ACI		X	3	1	1	1				1	7

KEYS: TC =Total Compliance, C/P = Compliance Plan in Place, ADC= Adult Detention Center, ACI = Adult Correctional Institution, ACCF = Adult Community Correction Facility.
 .01 Security and Inmate Control, .02 Inmate Safety, .03 Inmate Food Services, .04 Inmate Housing and Sanitation, .05 Inmate Rights, .06 Classification, .07 Hearings, .08 Administrative Record Keeping