

- Sheriff Jim Skinner, and members of the command staff, met with each shift of detention officers and deputy sheriffs and discussed the duties to care for inmates and the duty to intervene. They emphasized the principles in the Sheriff's June 4, 2020 directive on the duty to intervene to stop the use of excessive force.
- The Sheriff's Office is reviewing its policies regarding the use of force, use of restraints, and use of less-lethal force (including OC spray) in the county jail.
- Sheriff Jim Skinner further restricted the use of restraint beds and prohibited the use of spit masks, and his Office ordered four new SPAR restraint chairs for the jail. Once the chairs are in operation, the county jail will not use a restraint bed unless somehow medically indicated.
- The Sheriff's Office instituted a new requirement that at least one detention officer be designated as a safety officer to oversee each use of a restraint chair or bed and to pay special attention to the inmate's well-being.
- The Sheriff's Office reduced the number of, and standardized, the other restraint devices in the jail.
- Sheriff Jim Skinner contacted the National Sheriffs' Association for assistance in connection with this critical incident.
- With the help of the County's Dept. of Construction & Building Projects, the Sheriff's Office developed a plan to convert a detox cell in the county jail's Admissions area into a padded cell for the temporary holding of inmates harmful to themselves or others. The Texas Commission on Jail Standards approved the design in May. The County also recently engaged a contractor to for the conversion.
- The Sheriff's Office is arranging for an outside expert to provide interposition training to all staff to enhance their mindset and skill in meeting the duty to intervene. This will include training new instructors on our staff to help carry their skills forward. The training is scheduled to start in August.
- The Sheriff's Office is reviewing a possible program to send detention officers for specialized training with a local mental-health facility to enhance the staff's capability to care for persons arriving at the county jail with mental illness or in a crisis.
- Sheriff Jim Skinner formally requested the National Institute of Corrections—a component of the U.S. Dept. of Justice—for technical assistance and support. He asked that NIC's assistance and support include or address the Sheriff's Office's policies, procedures, training, and operations related to:
  - all aspects of its operation with respect to caring for persons with mental illness, behavioral-health challenges, or intellectual disability, including screening and admission, treatment, supervision, and housing;
  - use of force, the duty to intervene, restraints (including beds and chairs), including restraints in the infirmary setting;
  - the CCDF's physical plant and facilities for the care of inmates with mental illness, behavioral-health challenges, or intellectual disability;
  - the attitudes and culture of the detention staff, including with regard to caring for persons with mental illness, behavioral-health challenges, or intellectual disability, use of force, and restraints; and
  - the mental and emotional health and wellness of the detention officers and related staff.

