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Media Release

From: Jessica Burns
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Re: Hernando County Detention Center Passes Unannounced Florida Model Jail Standards Inspection

Date: July 06, 2026

Sheriff Al Nienhuis is pleased to announce that on June 23, 2026, the Hernando County Detention Center successfully passed its most recent unannounced Florida Model Jail Standards inspection.

As with the planned inspection conducted earlier this year, the facility was found to be in full compliance, with no violations noted by the inspection team.

Florida Model Jail Standards establish the minimum standards necessary to ensure that the constitutional rights of incarcerated individuals are protected. These inspections help confirm that detention facilities continue to meet or exceed Florida's operational and medical standards.

The unannounced inspection was conducted by an inspection team from the Indian River County Sheriff's Office. The team reviewed facility policies and proofs of compliance, inspected the facility, and interviewed staff and inmates as part of the review process. The inspection report confirmed that all inspected areas were in compliance, with no serious violations observed. The report also noted that the facility was clean and that staff were professional and knowledgeable regarding agency policies and procedures.

Sheriff Al Nienhuis stated, "Anyone can prepare for an inspection when they know it's coming. The true measure of a well-run facility is what happens when no one is watching - and that's exactly what an unannounced inspection reveals. Our detention staff passed with full compliance and zero violations because they operate at this level every single day, not just on inspection day. I'm proud of every member of our detention team for the professionalism and consistency they bring to one of the most demanding jobs in law enforcement."

Captain Justin Beetz added, "This inspection validates the high standards our staff maintain every day, not just when an inspection is scheduled. Achieving full compliance during an

unannounced inspection is a direct result of the dedication and pride our employees bring to their work each day."

For more information and to view the current Florida Model Jail Standards, visit:

https://flsheriffs.org/how-we-serve/jail-services/florida-model-jail-standards/