



COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY

OFFICE OF THE CONTROLLER

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The following information details observations from an unannounced inspection of Allegheny County Jail conducted by Controller Corey O'Connor on Thursday, December 11, 2025 at approximately 9:00 a.m. Observations are based on a physical site review, discussions with Warden Wingard, employees, corrections officers, and residents, and information made available before, during, and after the visit. As per 61 Pa.C.S. § 1724, this report shall be published for public inspection.

Controller O'Connor and staff arrived approximately at 9:00 a.m. and met first with the Warden and several officers in the waiting area. The Warden delivered updates on facility operations, staffing, and resident concerns, and provided open access to the Jail, staff, and residents for the duration of the visit. While conducting a walkthrough, the Warden discussed positive updates on the performance of unit manager positions. As observed in intake, these positions continue to strengthen communication, accountability, and relationship-building between residents, COs, and management alike. The Controller also spoke with COs and the unit manager of the intake area to learn more, and reviewed the optimization efforts being implemented in processing, medical screening and triage, and pretrial and pre-arraignment. Staff also discussed the implementation of new EMS staff, system improvements involving both Courts and Jail personnel, and renovated spaces to expand ACJ's capacity to support residents.

On facility operations, the Controller was briefed about work to redress water damage in intake, heating issues impacting housing units, and library renovations for residents. The Warden reported a water leak impacting staff and area operations, and as the Controller observed, work was ongoing to return these areas to regular function. This includes critical staff responsible for pretrial services, and as it was reported during the Jail Oversight Board on December 4, they have returned to their posts in intake. On heating concerns, the Warden discussed contingencies implemented to move residents to warmer areas, supply extra blankets, and monitor temperatures while infrastructural work is done to address conditions. Work is also being done to improve the Jail's library space, with the Warden reporting more updates will be available soon.

On staffing and wellness, the Warden discussed several changes to better support ACJ employees. This includes creation of a new fitness space, designation of an area for COs to speak with their loved ones, and other measures aimed at improving culture, morale, and retention. In addition, CO hiring has increased, and with larger incoming officer classes, ACJ reports CO employment will exceed 400 officers. At the conclusion of the Controller's staffing audit in 2022, for reference, ACJ had 377 COs employed.

The Controller spent the remainder of the inspection speaking with residents and staff, reviewing operational changes, and identifying steps to boost service delivery. The Controller appreciates the opportunity to exercise oversight, to this end, and is grateful to the many partners across government, including the Warden, President Judge and the Courts, and the County Executive, to better serve residents, employees, and taxpayers.