



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

WHITTLESEY ROAD

PO Box 863

TRENTON NJ 08625-0863

MIKIE SHERRILL
Governor

DR. DALE G. CALDWELL
Lt. Governor

VICTORIA L. KUHN, ESQ.
Commissioner

April 29, 2026

Via Email

Ombudsperson Terry Schuster
Office of the Corrections Ombudsperson
PO Box 855
Trenton, NJ 08625-0855

**RE: Inspection Report - Mid-State Correctional Facility, Medical Clinic
Response to April 2026 Report**

Dear Ombudsperson Schuster:

Thank you for your office's inspection report concerning the medical clinic at Mid-State Correctional Facility. We are pleased to hear of your office's finding that the clinic "demonstrated strong adherence to core requirements across all inspection criteria." We also acknowledge and appreciate the recommendations and comments contained in the report. This document is submitted in response to the specific recommendations, but does not include a response to other points raised in the report that are noted to have been resolved upon reinspection.

Medical Records

HCU and UCHC accept your recommendation that medical charts should store inactive records in accordance with policy or divide active charts into two clearly labeled parts that separate active and inactive records. This issue is currently under review.

Medication Administration

We would like to confirm that a system was already in place for downtime processes prior to your report. If you would like further information on how medical proceeds during a power outage or computer downtime, please let me know and we will arrange for you to meet with medical personnel on that point.

Controlled Substance and Medical Sharps Handling and Management

The recommendation that policies and procedures governing sharps and controlled substance counts be reviewed and DOC supervisory oversight be implemented to ensure proper accountability of controlled substances has been referred to the Division of Operations for a thorough review. DOC will update you should there be any changes to policy and/or procedure. The signature logbooks were raised with UCHC and DOC was advised that UCHC is reviewing the signature log books for compliance with applicable regulations.

Infection Control

We appreciate you noting that staff described procedures that align with established standards that are consistent with applicable regulations. We also are pleased that the inspection revealed proper use of personal protective equipment and adherence to hand hygiene protocols by staff. The biohazard waste and cleaning supply closet is what engendered recommendations to remove from that space all unrelated material and for DOC to clearly label all cleaning products, restrict the area to authorized biohazard and sanitation items only, reinforce staff training on proper storage protocols and implement routine monitoring to ensure ongoing compliance. In response:

- All non-biohazard and non-cleaning items have been removed from the biohazard and cleaning storage area. That area is now dedicated and restricted to exclusively biohazard and cleaning supply items.
- Cleaning products are clearly labeled with the manufacturer's informational label, which includes comprehensive safety, handling and hazard information. Should a person be exposed in a way that threatens health or safety, these labels provide critical information for response. For these reasons, we believe the current labels are satisfactory. However, DOC will conduct an audit within the next few weeks of labeling and advise your office if any changes are made to labeling.
- Staff receive training on biohazards. A referral was made to the DOC Division of Operations to consider the specific recommendation that staff training on proper storage protocols be reinforced.
- Mid-State Correctional Facility Administration was advised of the recommendation for routine monitoring of proper storage protocols. Administration has committed to including monitoring of proper storage protocols during routine tours.

Thank you and please feel free to contact me should you want to discuss further.

Sincerely,


Victoria L. Kuhn, Esq.
Commissioner