

Pima County Adult Detention Complex Receives Highest Level of Accreditation

The Pima County Sheriff's Department is proud to announce that the Pima County Adult Detention Complex has achieved the highest level of accreditation by the National Institute for Jail Operations (NIJO). Not only did the Corrections Bureau achieve their reaccreditation, but they were also accredited as a Level 1 detention complex, one of only three in the United States to achieve this prestigious level.

PCADC first applied for accreditation in 2018 under the direction of Sheriff Napier.

"It is critical that we provide an excellent standard of care for our inmates and subject ourselves to outside review to ensure our policies and practices meet the highest national standards", Napier explained.

NIJO is a national leader in making sure jails are safe, more secure, and follow legal-based guidelines. Their accreditation process has 585 standards which are all based on the Supreme Court, Ninth Circuit of Appeals, Arizona State Revised Statutes, and case laws.

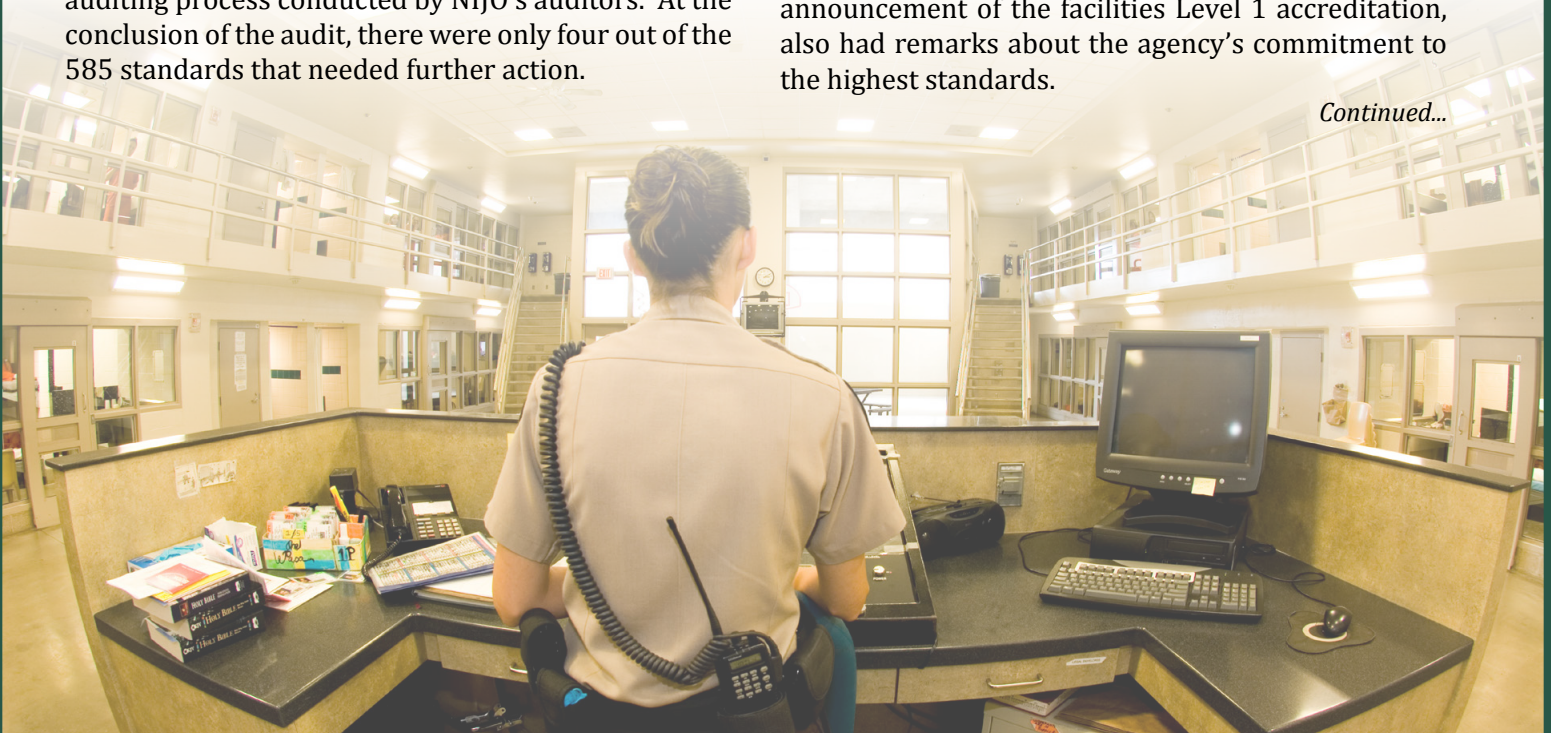
Corrections Bureau staff had to review and ensure complicity prior to opening their doors to a three-day auditing process conducted by NIJO's auditors. At the conclusion of the audit, there were only four out of the 585 standards that needed further action.



"This accreditation process is not just about the Commanders, Lieutenants, Sergeants, or Officers. It is about the whole facility, maintenance technicians, cooks, and medical staff. The accreditation looks at all of those things and they all have to be high function", Napier remarked. "It is critical that we provide an excellent standard of care for our inmates and subject ourselves to outside review to ensure our policies and practices meet the highest national standards."

Tate McCotter, Executive Director of NIJO, on the announcement of the facilities Level 1 accreditation, also had remarks about the agency's commitment to the highest standards.

Continued...





“I couldn’t be more impressed with Pima County. They are really the best of the best. Pima County has really set the bar high for the whole country to follow. People always ask me why I reference Pima County and I explain that’s where they have really strong leadership. That is the type of place people want to work there, they want to be there. What I have seen with Pima County is a tremendous ability to stay far ahead of the curve in national trends. Pima County is one place that has been very thoughtful of policy and procedures. They just seem to do it right. There’s a reason why they were able to achieve this accreditation and it wasn’t just dedication and hard work. There’s a lot of leadership and a lot of strength

in that agency. One thing I hope the public understands is that running a jail is not easy, especially in today’s environment. To move from already a high level of performance and move it to where you are a level 1 means you are 100% compliant to the core. That is as good as you can get and very impressive.”

The Pima County Adult Detention Complex follows Boone County and Wayne County in achieving a Level 1 accreditation. Shortly after receiving the Certificate of Recognition from NIJO the agency earned recognition from another national accrediting agency. The National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC), by demonstrating compliance with

NCCHC’s Standards for Health Services in Jails. Accreditation recognizes The Pima County Adult Detention Complex’s dedication to compliance with the most respected standards in correctional health care.

The Pima County Adult Detention Complex underwent a rigorous on-site survey. An experienced physician and other experts in correctional health care evaluated the facility for compliance with standards on continuous quality improvement, safety, infection control, chronic care, personnel and training, medical and mental health care, health records, and legal issues.

NCCHC has surveyed and accredited jails, prisons, and juvenile detention and confinement facilities for 40 years. The NCCHC standards used in accreditation are developed with input from the nation’s experts in correctional health care.



Congratulations to Sheriff Mark Napier and the Pima County Sheriff's Department for the continued commitment to providing the highest level of standards.