

Inspection visit to the detention facility of Rakvere Police Station

On 30 October 2019, the advisers to the Chancellor of Justice paid an unannounced inspection visit to the detention facility of Rakvere Police Station of the Police and Border Guard. During the inspection, the advisers examined the premises and documents of the detention facility and talked to the detained and arrested persons.

It is positive that a notation of how and when the petitions filed by the detained and arrested persons in the detention facility are resolved is made on the petitions. The detention facility gives the detained and arrested persons footwear to use when necessary and helps the detainees make doctor's appointments. It is also good that the detention facility keeps records of non-prescription medicines: which medicines are given to the detainees, in which quantities and when. However, the staff should make sure that expired medicines are removed from use and appropriately destroyed. It deserves recognition that the detention facility cooperates with Viru Prison to ensure that the detainees get the medicines prescribed to them in the detention facility.

The courtyards of the detention facility must comply with requirements. In each individual case, it must be assessed whether the use of 24-hour video surveillance is justified. The toilet area of the cell should be concealed so that it cannot be observed through the peephole without good reason, even during supervision. The toilet area must be properly separated from the rest of the cell in cells for multiple detainees. The documents concerning a detainee must be prepared correctly. I advise considering the installation of plexiglass windows to ordinary cells in order to better guarantee security, as it cannot be easily broken.