10A NCAC 14J .0601 is proposed for readoption with substantive changes as follows:

SECTION .0600 - SUPERVISION

10A NCAC 14J .0601 SUPERVISION

(a) Officers. A jail shall have an officer make supervision rounds and directly observe each inmate in person at least not less than twice per hour on an irregular basis, basis with not more than 35 minutes between rounds. Supervision rounds shall be conducted 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. The supervision rounds shall be documented, documented and maintained as written or electronic records. These records shall be made available to the Construction Section during an inspection upon request. If remote electronic monitoring is used to supplement supervision, it shall not be substituted for supervision rounds and direct visual observation. The supplemental methods of supervision specified in Paragraph (b) of this Rule shall not substitute for supervision rounds.

(b) In addition to the supervision rounds required in Paragraphs (a) and (c) of this Rule, each jail shall utilize one or both more of the following supplemental methods of supervision: supervision 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The supplemental methods of supervision are:

(1) Direct or remote direct two-way voice communication with all confinement units; communication; 
(2) Visual contact either through direct observation or by means of electronic surveillance with all confinement units, remote two-way voice communication; 
(3) Direct visual observation; and 
(4) Video surveillance.

(c) Officers shall directly observe, at least four times per hour, inmates who display the following behavior:

(1) Physically hitting or trying to hit an officer; or 
(2) Being verbally abusive; or 
(3) Stating he will do harm to himself; or 
(4) Intoxicated, as determined by a score of .15 on a breathalyzer or displaying slurred speech or smelling of alcohol or inability to control body movement; or 
(5) Displaying erratic behavior such as screaming, crying, laughing uncontrollably, or refusing to talk at all.

In additional to displayed behavior, a previous record of a suicide attempt or a previous record of mental illness shall warrant observation at least four times per hour. While an inmate is on special watch, as specified by this Paragraph, the jail shall have an officer conduct special watch rounds and observe the inmate not less than four times per hour on an irregular basis with not more than 20 minutes between rounds. Special watch shall be conducted 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The special watch rounds shall be documented. The jail shall maintain written or electronic records of the special watch rounds and shall make these records available to the Construction Section during an inspection upon request. The supplemental methods of supervision specified in Paragraph (b) of this Rule shall not substitute for a special watch. An inmate shall be on a special watch for the following reasons:
(1) an inmate with a medical record maintained and preserved by the jail as required by Rule .1001(b)(7) of this Subchapter that indicates the inmate has attempted suicide at a previous time;

(2) an inmate who reports a previous suicide attempt or threatens to commit suicide during their initial screening upon admission required by Rule .1001(b)(1) of this Subchapter;

(3) an inmate who has been assigned to special watch by medical or mental health personnel of the jail or an officer;

(4) an inmate who displays any of the following behavior:
   (A) physically hitting or trying to hit an officer;
   (B) verbal abuse of other people;
   (C) threatening other people or engaging in self-injury;
   (D) screaming, crying, laughing uncontrollably, or refusing to talk; and

(5) an inmate who is intoxicated by alcohol or drug use as determined at intake by one of the following:
   (A) a blood alcohol content level of .15 or greater as measured;
   (B) use of slurred speech; or
   (C) the inability to control body movement.

(d) Officers shall make sure that officers remain awake at all times while on duty.

(e) Officers shall not be assigned other duties that would interfere with the continuous supervision, custody or control of inmates. When an officer is assigned to supervise inmates as required by Paragraph (a), (b), and (c) of this Rule, a jail shall not assign the officer other tasks that would interfere with the supervision of inmates. These other tasks shall include:
   (1) delivering food to inmates;
   (2) preparing inmates for and transporting inmates to court;
   (3) escorting inmates to medical appointments;
   (4) performing inmate booking and release functions;
   (5) supervising inmates working in the jail; and
   (6) exchanging inmate’s soiled clothing, bed sheets, and blankets with clean clothing, bed sheets, and blankets.

(f) Female officers shall be on duty when female inmates are confined.

(g) The sheriff or the administrator of the regional jail administrator shall develop a contingency personnel plan plans for the supervision and control of inmates during an emergency, and that plan a fire, an emergency event, or an emergency situation that includes rioting, bomb threats, escapes, and the taking of hostages. The contingency personnel plans shall provide for the ready availability of extra personnel. A contingency personnel plan shall be included in the emergency plans required by Rule .0203(18) of this Subchapter and the disaster plan required by Rule .0403(d) of this Subchapter.

(h) Inmates shall not be allowed to supervise or assume any control over other inmates.

History Note: Authority G.S. 153A-221;
1 Eff. October 1, 1990;

2 Amended Eff. June 1, 1992, 1992;