

City of Hobbs Detention Center Improves Gear Storage with Smart Lockers

The City of Hobbs Detention Center transformed an empty hall near the employee entrance into secure storage for staff gear and weapons. The new smart locker system gives employees controlled access to their equipment while providing supervisors with remote access and an electronic audit trail of locker activity.

INDUSTRY

Public Safety

Built for a detention center setting where secure access and traceable locker activity were required.

LOCATION

Hobbs, New Mexico

Completed for a detention center in southeastern New Mexico.

FACILITY TYPE

Detention Center

The project supported employee gear and weapon storage just inside the staff entrance.

SOLUTION

Smart Locker Storage

The locker system provided controlled access, supervisor remote access, and electronic tracking of locker activity.

PRODUCTS USED

Smart Lockers for Gear and Handgun Storage

The smart locker system provided gear compartments, handgun-only lockers, two-factor access, charging, lighting, and electronic audit tracking.

OPERATIONAL GOAL

Secure and Auditable Access

The detention center needed staff gear and weapons stored in a controlled area with visibility into who opened each locker and when.

THE PROBLEM

No Dedicated Space for Shift Gear

The City of Hobbs Detention Center needed secure staff storage inside an empty hall near the employee entrance. Staff needed a defined place for gear bags, vests, handguns, belts, and related items before starting shifts, while supervisors needed visibility into locker access activity.



01

No Assigned Staff Storage

The detention center had no dedicated place for employees to store gear bags, vests, handguns, and related items during shifts. Staff needed a secure location near their normal entry path before they started work.

02

Locker Access Needed Tracking

The facility needed to know who accessed each locker and when. Without an electronic access record, the storage area would not meet the detention center's accountability requirement for gear and weapon storage.

03

Gear and Weapons Needed Separation

The storage layout needed to handle bulky gear and handguns without placing everything in one open compartment. A separated shelf was required so a weapon would be less likely to fall out when someone removed a vest, belt, or gear bag.

Smart Lockers Provide Controlled, Trackable Access

Southwest Solutions Group installed smart lockers in the empty hall near the employee entrance for detention center gear and handgun storage. The installation included 12 large gear lockers, 4 small handgun-only lockers, two-factor access by employee badge and PIN, remote access for supervisors, charging ports, interior lighting, and electronic audit reporting. Larger lockers paired a main gear area with a separate weapon shelf above it, creating a controlled storage point for shift use.



WHAT WE INSTALLED

Smart Lockers for Gear and Handguns

The installed system included 12 large lockers for gear storage and 4 small lockers for handguns only. Access used two-factor authentication through an employee badge and PIN.

WHY IT FIT

Secure Storage Built Around Staff Access

The large lockers were sized for a gear bag or clothing on one level, with a separate shelf above for weapons storage. This configuration kept bulkier items and weapons separated inside the locker while supporting the detention center's secure storage workflow.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

Trackable Storage at the Staff Entrance

The system gave employees an easy-to-use place to store gear and weapons before a shift. Supervisors also gained remote app access for lockout situations and an electronic audit trail showing who opened which locker and when.

Installing Controlled Storage in an Empty Hall

The project used an empty hall just inside the employee entrance, placing secure storage where staff could reach it before beginning a shift. Southwest Solutions Group coordinated the smart locker installation, access controls, charging ports, and interior lighting to create a secure storage area for daily staff use.

01 DISCOVERY & SITE SURVEY

Confirmed Staff Storage Requirements

The project began with the detention center's need for secure staff gear and weapon storage with traceable locker access. The selected hall near the employee entrance gave the facility a practical location for daily shift use.

02 LOCKER LAYOUT & ACCESS PLAN

Planned Locker Placement and Access Features

The layout accounted for large gear lockers, smaller handgun-only lockers, two-factor authentication, supervisor remote access, charging ports, and interior lighting. These requirements were tied to secure use, staff convenience, and electronic access history.

03 SUBMITTALS & APPROVALS

Prepared the Smart Locker Package

The smart locker package was developed around the detention center's operational requirements, including access tracking, separated weapon storage, and supervisor remote access. The project drawing helped confirm the locker layout and access requirements before installation.

04 FABRICATION & DELIVERY

Coordinated Smart Locker Components

Southwest Solutions Group coordinated the smart locker components for delivery and installation, including large gear lockers, handgun-only lockers, electronic access controls, charging features, and interior lighting.

05 INSTALLATION & TRAINING

Installed and Configured the Smart Lockers

The smart lockers were installed and configured for staff use with two-factor access, secure gear storage, and separate handgun compartments. The system gave employees a controlled place to store equipment during their shifts.

06 FINAL SYSTEM SETUP

Completed Access and Audit Features

Southwest Solutions Group completed the locker setup so the detention center had secure, trackable gear storage with supervisor remote access and electronic audit trail visibility.

RESULTS

Smart Lockers Improve Secure Staff Gear Storage

The smart locker system created a dedicated place for gear bags, handguns, vests, belts, and other shift equipment. Employees gained convenient secure storage, while supervisors gained electronic visibility into locker access.

PRIMARY OUTCOME

Dedicated Gear Storage Near the Staff Entrance

The empty hall near the employee entrance became a secure storage area for staff gear and weapons. This gave the detention center a defined place to store items during shifts.

WORKFLOW

Storage Access Near the Start of Shift

Employees can store and access gear close to the entrance they use before beginning work. That placement supports the daily staff entry routine without moving gear storage to a less convenient area.

ORGANIZATION

Separated Storage for Gear and Handguns

The system organized storage across 12 large gear lockers and 4 small handgun-only lockers. The larger lockers also included a separate shelf for weapons above the main gear area.

LONG-TERM VALUE

Electronic Access History for Ongoing Control

The electronic audit trail records who opened each locker and when. Remote access also gives supervisors a way to respond to lockout situations without being physically present at the locker.



CUSTOMER FEEDBACK

Absolutely, the salespeople are the big plus here! Responsive sales rep, responsive service crews - they got us what we needed and handled everything!

Steve Butler

Detention Center Admin

Smart Locker Installation Before and After

Before and after photos show the empty hall and the completed smart locker installation for secure staff gear and handgun storage.



READY TO SOLVE A SIMILAR PROBLEM?

Need Secure Smart Lockers for Staff Gear?

Southwest Solutions Group designs smart locker systems for public safety facilities that need secure staff gear storage, controlled access, and electronic activity tracking.

If your facility needs better control over staff gear and locker access, our team can evaluate the space and recommend a practical smart locker system.