



# WASHINGTON COUNTY

## JAIL FACILITY



Jail overcrowding and failing systems required an addition to the Washington County Jail—one that could provide for the jail population over the next thirty years. A vacant area adjacent to the existing facility was available but would require a plan for overcoming a 20-ft. elevation change to accommodate new construction.

### PROJECT APPROACH

- The grade of the site was raised to match the grade of the existing facility with engineered fill, compacted lifts and testing suitability.
- System of prefabricated components—steel plate and studs to mitigate weight load on new fill—were constructed off site and shipped to the jail site for erection.
- Shell of building was lightweight, pre-engineered metal to ease weight, scheduling and construction factors.
- 31,300 s.f. addition contains 204 beds on newly-elevated site at west end of existing facility.
- Tiered, modular steel cells in 2-man, 4-man, and 8-man configurations around perimeter with elevated central control in middle of the building.
- Continuous perimeter mechanical chase, double-envelope design.
- Control room and all cells modularized; dayroom and classrooms all panelized of steel.
- No masonry utilized in the housing pod.

### RESULT

- Innovative, lightweight, prefabricated components allowed project time to build up the adjacent site and test its suitability.
- Washington County able to streamline limited construction schedule.
- Entire construction schedule of only 12 months.

#### CLIENT

Washington County Board of Commissioners  
Salem, Indiana

#### PROJECT ROLES

Principal in Charge and Architect of Record (as RQAW team member)

#### PROJECT TEAM

RQAW Corporation

#### KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Components fabricated offsite allowed time for site grade change; innovative design of modular steel cells around elevated central control; only 12 month construction timeline.