Utah judge rules for release of county's jail inspection records

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Farmington, Utah • A judge has ruled that Davis County jail inspection records are public records and must be released but hasn't yet ruled on whether statewide jail standards also are also subject to release.

District Judge David Connors' ruling Friday on reports of internal jail inspections and inspections by the Utah Sheriff's Association were sought by civil liberties groups.

Officials had withheld the inspection records on various grounds, including assertions that release would threaten jail security.

Connors ruled that the documents are clearly public records and must be released but said he will review them first to consider whether portions can be withheld for security reasons. The judge also said he needs additional time to consider whether jail standards also are subject to public release.