

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Professional Responsibility ICE Inspections Washington, DC 20536-5501

Office of Detention Oversight Compliance Inspection 2024-003-239

Enforcement and Removal Operations ERO New York Field Office

Orange County Jail Goshen, New York

November 28-30, 2023

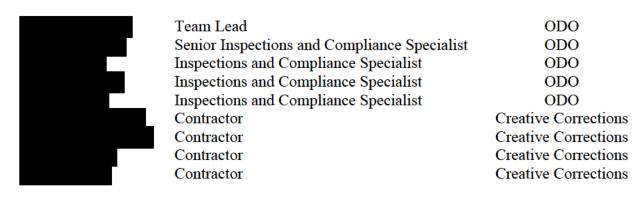
COMPLIANCE INSPECTION of the ORANGE COUNTY JAIL

Goshen, New York

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FACILITY OVERVIEW	4
COMPLIANCE INSPECTION PROCESS	5
FINDINGS BY NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2019 MAJOR CATEGORIES	6
DETAINEE RELATIONS	7
COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS	7
CONCLUSION	7

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS



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FACILITY OVERVIEW

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) Office of Detention Oversight (ODO) conducted a compliance inspection of the Orange County Jail (OCJ) in Goshen, New York, from November 28 to 30, 2023. The facility opened in 2001 and is owned by Orange County and operated by the Orange County Sheriff's Department. The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainees at OCJ in 2007 under the oversight of ERO's Field Office Director in New York (ERO New York). The facility operates under the National Detention Standards (NDS) 2019.

A facility administrator handles daily operations and manages support personnel. Aramark Correctional Food Services provides food services, Keefe Group provides commissary services, and WellPath provides medical services at the facility. The facility was accredited by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care in April 2018, the American Correctional Association in June 2019, and the New York State Sheriffs' Association in January 2023.

Capacity and Population Statistics	Qua	antity
ICE Bed Capacity ²		
Average ICE Population ³		
Adult Male Population (as of November 28, 2023)		
Adult Female Population (as of November 28, 2023)		

During its last full inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, ODO found 9 deficiencies in the following areas: Custody Classification System (1); Environmental Health and Safety (2); Funds and Personal Property (1); Medical Care (1); Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention (1); and Significant Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention (3).

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¹ This facility holds male and female detainees with low, medium-low, medium-high, and high security classification levels for periods greater than 72 hours.

² Data Source: ERO Custody Management Division Authorized Facility List as of November 20, 2023.

³ Ihid

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION PROCESS

ODO conducts oversight inspections of ICE detention facilities with an average daily population of 10 or more, and where detainees are housed for over 72 hours, to assess compliance with ICE national detention standards. While these inspections focus on facility compliance with detention standards that directly affect detainee life, health, safety, and/or well-being, in FY 2024 ODO added additional standards to the scope of each full inspection to ensure ODO inspects every standard at each facility at least once every other year.⁴

ODO identifies violations of ICE detention standards, ICE policies, or operational procedures, as "deficiencies." ODO highlights instances when the facility resolves deficiencies prior to completion of the ODO inspection. Where applicable, these corrective actions are annotated with "C" under the *Compliance Inspection Findings* section of this report.

Upon completion of each inspection, ODO conducts a closeout briefing with facility and local ERO officials to discuss preliminary findings. A summary of these findings is shared with ERO management officials. Thereafter, ODO provides ICE leadership with a final compliance inspection report to: (i) assist ERO in developing and initiating corrective action plans; and (ii) provide senior executives with an independent assessment of facility operations. ODO's findings inform ICE executive management in their decision-making to better allocate resources across the agency's entire detention inventory.

⁴ ODO reviews the facility's compliance with selected standards in their entirety.

FINDINGS BY NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2019 **MAJOR CATEGORIES**

NDS 2019 Standards Inspected ^{5,6}	Deficiencies
Part 1 - Safety	
Environmental Health and Safety	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 2 - Security	
Admission and Release	0
Custody Classification System	0
Facility Security and Control	0
Funds and Personal Property	0
Post Orders	0
Searches of Detainees	0
Use of Force and Restraints	0
Special Management Unit	0
Staff-Detainee Communication	0
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 4 - Care	
Food Service	0
Hunger Strikes	0
Medical Care	0
Personal Hygiene	0
Significant Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 5 - Activities	
Correspondence and Other Mail	0
Religious Practices	0
Telephone Access	0
Voluntary Work Program	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 6 - Justice	
Grievance System	0
Law Libraries and Legal Material	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 7 - Administration and Management	

⁵ For greater detail on ODO's findings, see the *Compliance Inspection Findings* section of this report.
⁶ Beginning in FY 2024, ODO instituted a process of rotating all standards every other year. As a result, some standards may not be present in all inspections.

Detention Files	0
Detainee Transfer	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	0

DETAINEE RELATIONS

ODO interviewed 24 detainees, who each voluntarily agreed to participate. The remaining detainees declined ODO's request for an interview. None of the detainees made allegations of discrimination, mistreatment, or abuse. All detainees reported satisfaction with facility services.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS

ODO found no deficiencies during the inspection.

CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 24 standards under NDS 2019 and found the facility in compliance with all 24 standards. Since OCJ's last full inspection in October 2022, the facility's compliance with the ICE NDS 2019 has trended upward. OCJ went from 9 deficiencies in 6 standards in October 2022 to no deficient standards during this most recent full inspection. The facility's improved performance was likely a result of completing a uniform corrective action plan for their last full inspection and ERO New York oversight of OCJ. ODO recommends ERO New York continue to work with the facility in accordance with contractual obligations.

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	FY 2023 Full Inspection (NDS 2019)	FY 2024 Full Inspection (NDS 2019)
Standards Reviewed	19	24
Deficient Standards	6	0
Overall Number of Deficiencies	9	0
Priority Component Deficiencies	3	0
Repeat Deficiencies	3	0
Areas Of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	1	0
Facility Rating	Good	Superior