

## Summary of Conference Call

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
Advisory Committee on Family Residential Centers  
Subcommittee on Access to Counsel and Language Services  
August 2, 2016

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Advisory Committee on Family Residential Centers (ACFRC), Subcommittee on Access to Counsel and Language Services convened on Tuesday, August 02, 2016 via teleconference at 12:00 P.M. EST.

### **Attendance:**

#### *Subcommittee Members Present for Teleconference:*

- Jennifer Nagda
- Dora Schriro
- Kurt Schwarz
- Margo Schlanger
- Sonia Parras-Konrad

#### *Subcommittee Members not Present:*

- Karen Musalo

#### *Others Present:*

- Elizabeth Cedillo-Pereira, Senior Advisor, ICE; Alternate Designated Federal Officer (ADFO), ACFRC
- Maryam Ali, Special Assistant, ICE

### **Opening Remarks:**

Subcommittee Chair Jennifer Nagda took roll call. She provided an update on the time frame discussed during the subcommittee chairs call, noting that ICE is planning to hold the next full committee meeting in October. In regards to the drafting process, she highlighted that once subcommittee reports are submitted to ACFRC Chair Kurt Schwarz there will be no more opportunity for collaborative work until the full Committee meeting. ICE agreed to provide a new deadline to ensure members have enough time to produce thorough reports.

Chair Nagda continued that following submission of subcommittee reports, members would conduct individual review and bring comments and feedback to the public meeting where the reports will be finalized.

Special Assistant Maryam Ali asked members to email their availability for the month of October. ICE would send an email with a new deadline before the end of the day.

### **General Meeting:**

Moving along, Chair Nagda said she would provide an update on her work thus far on legal access issues and requested Margo Schlanger and Vice Chair Schriro to do the same for language access and detention management, respectively.

On legal access, Chair Nagda said she is using the original outline to format her draft work and has started working on the first 4 of the following 6 areas:

1. General access
2. Physical access, including location
3. Communication with counsel
4. Notice of rights and legal process
5. Access to the law library and legal research
6. Facility rules and policies

Her goal is to complete this by next Monday for feedback from the members on direction and tone. She asked if ACFRC Chair Schwarz would tackle #5 and if Vice Chair Schriro would take #6. Both agreed.

Chair Nagda continued that Chair BethAnn Berliner from the Subcommittee on Education indicated that her group had a similar approach, aiming for a draft that is not too narrative and leading from broadest to narrowest recommendations. The Subcommittee on Medical and Mental Health, however, is taking a different approach and it is unclear if they will change this.

On language access, Ms. Schlanger said she is halfway through and plans to share a draft by the following Monday. She is working through the following breakdown:

1. Providing the necessary assistance
  - a. Identification of language access needs
  - b. Orientation
  - c. Fair immigration procedures (issues related to legal access)
  - d. Medical and mental healthcare
  - e. Education
  - f. Grievances
  - g. General communication by staff
2. Training
3. Providing notice

Ms. Schlanger said she structured her draft by outlining what is known, what problems are revealed, and then providing recommendations. She said she would change it to match Chair Nagda's structure after sharing a complete draft and receiving feedback from the others.

Chair Nagda said Ms. Schlanger's description sounded similar to what the Subcommittee on Medical and Mental Health was doing and suggested taking a look at this.

On detention management and alternatives to detention, Vice Chair Schriro said she would reach out to the other co-chairs to organize these issues across the three subcommittees.

Ms. Schlanger added that she would circulate links leading to the papers from the Flores case which includes helpful information along the lines of the members' requests. In regards to Ms. Schlanger's request for an index of all policies, Ms. Ali said ICE would accept requests for specific policies.

Chair Nagda suggested Karen Musalo or Sonia Parras-Konrad could be responsible for compiling cross-subcommittee feedback and proposing revisions.

Chair Nagda also noted that after receiving additional feedback from the other subcommittees and the ACFRC Chair and Vice Chair, a consolidated letter highlighting what members see as a change in direction from ICE on the issue of detention management and intake and outtake processing would be sent to the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security and the Director of ICE.

**Adjournment:**

The subcommittee adjourned at approximately 12:40P.M. EST.