

Summary of Conference Call

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Advisory Committee on Family Residential Centers
Subcommittee on Medical and Mental Health
September 27, 2016

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Advisory Committee on Family Residential Centers (ACFRC), Subcommittee on Medical and Mental Health convened for its weekly meeting on Tuesday, September 27, 2016, via teleconference from 1:30 P.M. to 2:30 P.M.

Attendance:

Subcommittee Members Present for the Teleconference:

- Leslye Orloff
- Judith Dolins
- Dr. Andres Pumariega
- Dr. William Arroyo

Others Present:

- John Amaya, Deputy Chief of Staff, ICE; Designated Federal Officer (DFO), ACFRC
- Andrea Washington, Special Assistant, ICE

Opening Remarks:

Chair Leslye Orloff recognized subcommittee members and ICE staff as they joined the teleconference. The Chair said the main focus of the call would be on the process going forward with the draft recommendations. She said she also wanted to talk about planning for the full Committee public meeting on October 7.

General Meeting:

Vice Chair Judith Dolins, reminding the group that the final version of the recommendations is due on Friday (September 30), said there were three remaining outstanding issues in the compiled draft recommendations document that Margo Schlanger, member of the Subcommittee on Access to Counsel and Language Services, has been maintaining. Those issues being:

- Credible fear vs. reasonable fear;
- Citations of the Performance-Based National Detention Standards; and
- Repetition in the document.

Vice Chair Dolins said the expectation is that everyone will read through the recommendations and provide edits one final time before the document goes to Committee Chair Kurt Schwarz on Friday. The Vice Chair stated that Ms. Schlanger does not want major editing at this point, and if there are concerns about language, revised text has to be provided; there should be no more comments without a solution.

Vice Chair Dolins said after the draft recommendations are settled and sent to the full Committee, members will have until October 5 to send any proposed additional changes to Chair Schwarz. During the meeting on October 7, each subcommittee Chair will have 10 minutes to give an overview of their group's report, which will be followed by comments from the public and a discussion about further edits and/or still unresolved issues. Vice Chair Dolins said she thought it would be a good idea to spend a portion of the call helping Chair Orloff lay out what she should talk about in the opening comments. Chair Orloff said she was thinking her initial comments would be a big picture statement about the thinking behind the recommendations.

ACFRC DFO John Amaya briefly broke into the call to provide more details on the flow of the October 7 meeting. He said the opening comments would be an opportunity for each subcommittee Chair to give a high-level overview of what their group found and the biggest takeaways they want to present and share for dissemination to the Department of Homeland Security and ICE. DFO Amaya stated that the presentation can be collaborative, noting that the subcommittees have the freedom to make what they want of the presentation.

The DFO continued that Chair Schwarz will use the comments, edits, or concerns he receives by October 5 to help guide the discussion portion of each subcommittee's one-hour session during the meeting.

Vice Chair Dolins asked if there are issues raised by the public or Committee members, will more time be given to deliberate and resolve everything before the report is finalized. DFO Amaya said the time to deliberate, resolve, and rework if necessary will be that day. He added that if there are revisions, Chair Schwarz will be responsible for making them. Dr. William Arroyo asked if ICE will make any changes to the recommendations once they are finalized, and DFO Amaya confirmed ICE will not make any edits to the recommendations.

Chair Orloff expressed concern about not being able to discuss the recommendations with other members after September 30, commenting that the group would not have time to talk about how to address issues other Committee members might raise at the meeting.

Vice Chair Dolins then walked members through a few recommendations that still needed resolution, including:

- Emergency contraception and abortion; and
- Detainment of parents and children who do not speak English.

There was also discussion about adding a new recommendation that references the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act.

Dr. Arroyo then announced he had to leave the call for another meeting.

The remaining subcommittee members on the call discussed potential issues for Chair Orloff to mention in her open, with there being a consensus that the impact of trauma and an explanation of what trauma-informed means should be big points to highlight.

Dr. Andres Pumariega then left the call to prepare for an appointment with a patient.

Chair Orloff and Vice Chair Dolins spent the last few minutes of the call further discussing issues to highlight in the overview. The Vice Chair said she would craft an initial outline of introductory remarks for Chair Orloff.

With no additional topics to address, Chair Orloff adjourned the meeting.

Adjournment:

The subcommittee adjourned at 2:30 P.M.