

**Date:** December 2, 2019

**To:**

**From:**

**Re:** Compliance Inspection of the South Texas Family Residential Center

From November 12, 2019 to November 13, 2019, I conducted a monthly inspection at the South Texas Family Residential Center (STFRC). The following activities were conducted and findings noted:

Standard	Type of Inspection	Finding
<b>1.1 Emergency Plans</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>1.2 Environmental Health and Safety</b>	Monthly	Compliant w/ issues; Partially Inspected
<b>1.3 Transportation by Land</b>	Monthly	Not Inspected
<b>1.4 Housekeeping and Voluntary Work Program</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>2.1 Admissions and Release</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>2.2 Contraband</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>2.3 Funds and Personal Property</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>2.4 Key and Lock Control</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>2.5 Resident Census</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>2.6 Searches of Residents</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>2.7 Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>2.8 Staff-Resident Communications</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>2.9 Tool Control</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>2.10 Use of Physical Control Measures and Restraints</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>3.1 Discipline and Behavior Management</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>4.1 Food Services</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>4.2 Hunger Strikes</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>4.3 Medical Care</b>	Monthly	Compliant; Partially Inspected
<b>4.4 Personal Hygiene</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>4.5 Suicide Prevention and Intervention</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>4.6 Terminal Illness, Advance Directives and Death</b>	Monthly	Compliant; Partially Inspected
<b>5.1 Correspondence and Other Mail</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>5.2 Educational Policy</b>	Monthly	Compliant; Partially Inspected
<b>5.3 Escorted Trips for Non-Medical Emergencies</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>5.4 Marriage Requests</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>5.5 Recreation</b>	Monthly	Compliant; Partially Inspected
<b>5.6 Religious Practices</b>	Monthly	Compliant; Partially Inspected
<b>5.7 Telephone Access</b>	Monthly	Compliant; Partially Inspected
<b>5.8 Visitation</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>6.1 Grievance System</b>	Monthly	Compliant

<b>6.2 Law Libraries and Legal Materials</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>6.3 Legal Rights Group Presentations</b>	Monthly	Not Inspected
<b>7.1 Residential Files</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>7.2 News Media Interviews and Tours</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>7.3 Staff Hiring and Training</b>	Monthly	Compliant; Partially Inspected
<b>7.4 Transfer of Residents</b>	Monthly	Compliant
<b>7.5 Post Orders</b>	Monthly	Compliant

## Overall Observations

- Total population on the first day of inspection: 1,609
- Total number of adult females: 699
- Total number of male juveniles: 426
- Total number of female juveniles: 484
- Total number of school aged children: 696
- Average length of stay: 34.53 days
- Longest stay: 91 days
- Total number of discharges from October 1, 2019 through October 31, 2019: 494
- Total number of intakes from October 1, 2019 through October 31, 2019: 1,581
- The total census from the previous month has increased significantly (from 1,107 to 1,609) as well as the average length of stay (from 12.75 days to 34.53 days). The facility appears to be managing the increased population and length of stay well.

## Current Inspection Findings

### I. Areas of Noncompliance

There were no areas of noncompliance identified during this inspection.

## Status of Previously Identified Noncompliant Areas

### II. Areas of Noncompliance

There were no previously identified areas of non-compliance.

### **III. Areas of Compliance with Issues Identified**

There were no new areas of compliance with issues identified. See the section below regarding previously identified areas of compliance with issues identified.

## **Status of Previously Identified Issues**

### **III. Previous Area of Compliance with Issues Identified**

Issues with artificial grass/turf that were previously identified do not appear to have been resolved.

#### **1.2 Environmental Health and Safety**

- **Observation(s):** I observed tattered and worn artificial grass/turf. The artificial grass/turf was coming up in several areas around the Yellow Frog 1 housing unit and the recreation area near the Yellow Frog and Red Parrot housing units. This poses a tripping risk for residents and staff. There were work orders in place to fix these areas. There was a missing window screen in Yellow Frog 2 and a hole in the ground by the gym near the Green Turtle 1 housing unit. I showed pictures of the areas listed to

**Mitigation(s):** The aforementioned artificial grass/turf issues must be resolved by either securing the turf or replacing it. Core Civic's administration and ICE are discussing a more permanent solution to address the artificial grass/turf issues. The screen in the Yellow Frog 2 needs to be replaced. The hole in the ground near the gym near Green Turtle 1 housing needs to be filled in with dirt. We will continue to monitor these issues.

**Follow up:**

**11/12/2019 – Unresolved:** I observed the artificial grass/turf issues noted in the previous inspection. I noted a window screen from one of the living units on the ground near the yellow housing unit. There was also trash on the ground that appeared to have blown from a nearby trash receptacle near the education trailers. There had been a significant amount of wind the previous day which may have been a contributing factor. Core Civic and ICE must determine a solution to address the artificial grass/turf issues. There appear to be issues with either the product or the installation which do not permit proper drainage. Inspection of the turf in the course of the regular safety inspections should be a priority, with identified problems being addressed through the regular work order process. The window screen discovered on the ground needs to be installed. Trash on the grounds needs to be picked up and properly disposed.