

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
500 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20536



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

July 20, 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR: Tae D. Johnson
Assistant Director

THROUGH: Jay M. Brooks
Deputy Assistant Director

FROM: Cynthia R. Parker
Unit Chief, Detention Standards Compliance

SUBJECT: Deficiency – Exit Diagrams

Purpose

Review a waiver for the Salt Lake City, Las Vegas ERO Sub-office (SLC/LVG) as it relates to the Environmental Health and Safety in Detention Facilities, Part 2, Item 7, Section III, Number L5 within the 2000 National Detention Standards (NDS), which states "In addition to a general area diagram, the following information must be provided on existing signs: a. English and Spanish instructions; b. You are here markers; c. Emergency equipment locations. New signs and sign replacements will also identify and explain areas of safe refuge."

Background

On October 25, 2011, the City of Henderson Detention Center (HDC) was inspected by the Office of Detention Oversight. As a result of this inspection, the aforementioned deficiency was noted.

Discussion

HDC management has expressed safety concerns regarding the posting of such detailed and specific exit diagrams within its detention facility. HDC feels they have met the intent of the requirements within this standard. Currently, HDC policy is to direct and assist all inmates and detainees in an orderly fashion to pre-designated safety zones and assist them with evacuating the facility in the event of an emergency.

Recommendation

Review a waiver request to NDS Part 2, Item 7, Section III, Number L5, to not post exit diagrams depicting emergency egress/escape routes within the facility.

Approve/date Jay M. Brooks (A) AD 7/26/12 Disapprove/date _____

Modify/date _____ Needs more discussion _____

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