### **U.S. Department of Homeland Security**

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

# Office of Detention Oversight Follow-Up Compliance Inspection

Enforcement and Removal Operations ERO New Orleans Field Office

Adams County Detention Center Natchez, Mississippi

June 28 - July 2, 2021

# FOLLOW-UP COMPLIANCE INSPECTION of the ADAMS COUNTY DETENTION CENTER

Natchez, Mississippi

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### FOLLOW-UP 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 follow-up compliance inspection of the Adams County Detention Center (ACDC) in Natchez, Mississippi, from June 28 to July 2, 2021. This inspection focused on the standards found deficient during ODO's last inspection of ACDC from February 1 to 4, 2021. The facility opened in 2009 and is owned and operated by CoreCivic. The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainees at ACDC in 2019 under the oversight of ERO's Field Office Director in New Orleans (ERO New Orleans). The facility operates under the Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) 2011 (Revised 2016).

ERO has assigned deportation officers to the facility. An ACDC warden handles daily facility operations and manages personnel. Trinity Food Service provides food services, CoreCivic provides medical care, and Keefe Supply Company provides commissary services at the facility. The facility was accredited by the American Correctional Association in August 2019 and by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care in January 2020.

Capacity and Population Statistics	Quantity	
ICE Detainee Bed Capacity <sup>2</sup>		
Average ICE Detainee Population <sup>3</sup>	_	
Male Detainee Population (as of June 28, 2021)		
Female Detainee Population (as of June 28, 2021)		

During its last inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021, ODO found three deficiencies in the following areas: Funds and Personal Property (1); and Food Service (2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This facility holds both male and female detainees with low, medium-low, medium-high, and high-security classification levels for periods longer than 72 hours.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Data Source: ERO Facility List Report as of June 28, 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid.

#### FOLLOW-UP COMPLIANCE INSPECTION PROCESS

ODO conducts oversight inspections of ICE detention facilities with an average daily population of 10 or more detainees, and where detainees are housed for longer than 72 hours, to assess compliance with ICE National Detention Standards. These inspections focus solely on facility compliance with detention standards that directly affect detainee life, health, safety, and well-being. In FY 2021, to meet congressional requirements, ODO began conducting follow-up inspections at all ICE ERO detention facilities, which ODO inspected earlier in the FY.

While follow-up inspections are intended to focus on previously identified deficiencies, ODO will conduct a complete review of several core standards, which include but are not limited to Medical Care, Hunger Strikes, Suicide Prevention, Food Service, Environmental Health and Safety, Emergency Plans, Use of Force and Restraints/Use of Physical Control Measures and Restraints, Admission and Release, Classification, and Funds and Personal Property. ODO may decide to conduct a second full inspection of a facility in the same FY based on additional information obtained prior to ODO's arrival on-site. Factors ODO will consider when deciding to conduct a second full inspection will include the total number of deficiencies cited during the first inspection, the number of deficient standards found during the first inspection, the completion status of the first inspection's UCAP, and other information ODO obtains from internal and external sources ahead of the follow-up compliance inspection. Conditions found during the inspection may also lead ODO to assess new areas and identify new deficiencies or areas of concern should facility practices run contrary to ICE standards. Any areas found non-compliant during both inspections are annotated as "Repeat Deficiencies" in this report.

ODO was unable to conduct an on-site inspection of this facility, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and instead, conducted a remote inspection of the facility. During this remote inspection, ODO interviewed facility staff, ERO field office staff, and detainees, reviewed files and detention records, and was able to assess compliance for at least 90 percent or more of the ICE national detention standards reviewed during the inspection.

# FINDINGS BY PERFORMANCE-BASED NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2011 (REVISED 2016) MAJOR CATEGORIES

PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016) Standards Inspected <sup>4</sup>	Deficiencies
Part 1 – Safety	•
Emergency Plans	0
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
Special Management Units	0
Use of Force and Restraints	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 4 – Care	
Food Service	0
Hunger Strikes	0
Medical Care	0
Medical Care (Women)	0
Significant Self-harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For greater detail on ODO's findings, see the Follow-Up Compliance Inspection Findings section of this report.

#### **DETAINEE RELATIONS**

ODO interviewed 12 detainees, who each voluntarily agreed to participate. None of the detainees made allegations of discrimination, mistreatment, or abuse. All detainees reported satisfaction with facility services. ODO conducted the detainee interviews via video teleconference.

#### FOLLOW-UP COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS

There were no findings during this inspection.

#### **CONCLUSION**

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 13 standards under PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016) and found the facility in compliance with all 13 of those standards. ODO commends facility staff for their responsiveness during this inspection. ERO provided ODO with the uniform corrective action plan for ODO's last inspection of ACDC on June 10, 2021.

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	First FY 2021 (PBNDS 2011) (Revised 2016)	Second FY 2021 (PBNDS 2011) (Revised 2016)
Standards Reviewed	21	13
Deficient Standards	2	0
Overall Number of Deficiencies	3	0
Repeat Deficiencies	1	0
Areas of Concern	1	0
Corrective Actions	0	0