

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

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

Office of Detention Oversight Compliance Inspection

Enforcement and Removal Operations ERO Boston Field Office

Plymouth County Correctional Facility Plymouth, Massachusetts

November 15-17, 2022

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION of the PLYMOUTH COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Plymouth, Massachusetts

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COMPLIANCE INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS

Team Lead	ODO
Senior Inspections and Compliance Specialist	ODO
Inspections and Compliance Specialist	ODO
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Contractor	Creative Corrections

FACILITY OVERVIEW

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) Office of Detention Oversight (ODO) conducted a compliance inspection of the Plymouth County Correctional Facility (PCCF) in Plymouth, Massachusetts, from November 15 to 17, 2022. The facility opened in 1994 and is owned and operated by Plymouth County Sheriff's Office. The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainess at PCCF in 1994 under the oversight of ERO's Field Office Director in Boston (ERO Boston). The facility operates under the National Detention Standards (NDS) 2019.

ERO has assigned one deportation officer (DO) and a detention services manager to the facility. A Superintendent handles daily facility operations and manages support personnel. Trinity Services provides food services, Correctional Psychiatric Services Health Care provides medical care, and Keefe Commissary provides commissary services at the facility. The facility was accredited by the American Correctional Association in September 2020.

Capacity and Population Statistics	Quantity	
ICE Bed Capacity ²		
Average ICE Population ³		
Adult Male Population (as of November 15, 2022)		
Adult Female Population (as of November 15, 2022)		

During its last inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, ODO found no deficiencies.

Office of Detention Oversight

November 2022

¹ This facility holds male detainees with Low, Medium-High, and High security classification levels for periods greater than 72 hours.

² Data Source: ERO Facility List as of November 14, 2022.

³ Ibid.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION PROCESS

ODO conducts oversight inspections of ICE detention facilities with an average daily population greater than 10, and where detainees are housed for over 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/or well-being.⁴

ODO identifies violations of ICE detention standards, ICE policies, or operational procedures, as "deficiencies." ODO also highlights instances when the facility resolves deficiencies prior to completion of the ODO inspection. Where applicable, these corrective actions are annotated with "C" under the *Compliance Inspection Findings* section of this report.

Upon completion of each inspection, ODO conducts a closeout briefing with facility and local ERO officials to discuss preliminary findings. A summary of these findings is shared with ERO management officials. Thereafter, ODO provides ICE leadership with a final compliance inspection report to: (i) assist ERO in developing and initiating corrective action plans; and (ii) provide senior executives with an independent assessment of facility operations. ODO's findings inform ICE executive management in their decision-making to better allocate resources across the agency's entire detention inventory.

⁴ ODO reviews the facility's compliance with selected standards in their entirety.

FINDINGS BY NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2019 **MAJOR CATEGORIES**

NDS 2019 Standards Inspected ^{5,6}	Deficiencies
Part 1 - Safety	
Environmental Health and Safety	0
Transportation by Land	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 2 - Security	
Admission and Release	0
Custody Classification System	
Funds and Personal Property	0
Hold Rooms in Detention Facilities	0
Use of Force and Restraints	0
Special Management Units	0
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 3 - Order	•
Disciplinary System	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 4 - Care	
Food Service	0
Medical Care	0
Significant Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention	0
Terminal Illness and Death	0
Disability Identification, Assessment, and Accommodation	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 5 - Activities	
Correspondence and Other Mail	0
Recreation	0
Visitation	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 6 - Justice	
Detainee Handbook	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	0

For greater detail on ODO's findings, see the Compliance Inspection Findings section of this report.
 Beginning in FY 2022, ODO instituted a process of rotating all standards on a 3-year basis. As a result, some standard components may not be present in all standards.

DETAINEE RELATIONS

ODO interviewed 27 detainees, who each voluntarily agreed to participate. One detainee made an allegation of mistreatment. Most detainees reported satisfaction with facility services except for the concerns listed below.

Use of Force and Restraints: One detainee stated he encountered staff misconduct during a use-of-force incident on September 17, 2022, and heard an officer use a racial slur against him.

Action Taken: ODO interviewed facility staff, reviewed the use-of-force video, confirmed staff used the minimum amount of force as per PCCF policies and procedures, but found no evidence of verbal abuse. ODO reviewed the Joint Intake Case Management System and found the facility submitted no report about the incident to the Joint Intake Center (JIC). ODO followed up by reporting this incident to the JIC.

Staff-Detainee Communication: One detainee stated he needed help locating his wife who he believed was also in ICE custody.

• Action Taken: ODO interviewed an ERO Boston DO and located a female that ICE arrested along with the detainee. The detainees initially didn't identify themselves as married, but ERO later confirmed their marital status. ODO confirmed ERO released the detainee's wife from custody on November 8, 2022, to an address of the detainee's brother. ERO Boston provided the detainee with the telephone number of the detainee's brother, and the brother confirmed to the detainee his wife's well-being and location at that address.

Medical Care: One detainee stated he requested multiple times to go to the hospital to have surgery for his ankle, but he never received a response from facility medical staff. The detainee also stated he had scheduled surgery for his injured ankle prior to his arrest by ICE.

• Action Taken: ODO reviewed the detainee's medical files, interviewed the facility medical staff, and found the detainee reported no ankle pain during intake on June 21, 2022. On October 21, 2022, medical staff examined the detainee for a big toe problem, but issued him an ankle brace after he reported chronic ankle pain. On November 9, 2022, medical staff took an X-ray of the detainee's ankle and identified a small bone chip, but the detainee refused to meet with an orthopedist for a follow-up appointment. On November 16, 2022, ODO requested medical staff to examine the detainee again, and the detainee confirmed experiencing no pain in his ankle. Medical staff informed the detainee of no need for surgery on his ankle at this time but to submit a sick call request if the pain returned. The detainee acknowledged he understood.

Medical Care: One detainee stated he felt mental anguish over the fact that an officer "massaged his chest" after the detainee lost consciousness during an incident and wondered whether this was normal.

• Action Taken: ODO interviewed the facility leadership and medical staff, reviewed medical records and incident reports, and confirmed staff found the detainee unresponsive on a bench in the dayroom in his housing unit on October 21, 2022, and officers gave him a sternum rub to check for responsiveness and assisted the detainee with his breathing. Medical staff arrived and revived the detainee with ammonia under the nose and Narcan. The detainee remained unresponsive, and medical staff transported him to the hospital. After finding no cause for loss of consciousness, the hospital released the detainee on October 23, 2022. On October 26 and 27, 2022, medical staff examined the detainee again for pain in his sternum. At ODO's request, medical staff met the detainee on November 16, 2022, to answer any questions he may have regarding the events of October 21, 2022. At that time, the detainee confirmed no ongoing pain in his sternum and had no other complaints.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS

ODO noted no deficiencies during this on-site compliance inspection.

CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 19 standards under NDS 2019 and found the facility in compliance with all 19 standards. ODO found no deficiencies in any of the standards. ODO commends facility staff members for their responsiveness and partnership during this inspection. A uniform corrective action plan was not required for ODO's last inspection of PCCF which occurred in April 2022.

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	FY 2022 (NDS 2019)	FY 2023 (NDS 2019)
Standards Reviewed	13	19
Deficient Standards	0	0
Overall Number of Deficiencies	0	0
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	0	0
Facility Rating	Superior	Superior