



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 Houston Field Office**

**Limestone County Detention Center
Groesbeck, Texas**

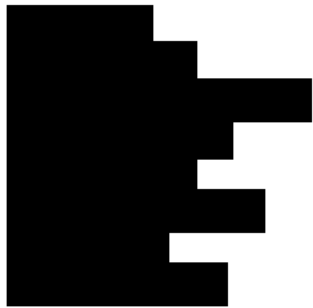
January 10-12, 2023

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION
of the
LIMESTONE COUNTY DETENTION CENTER
Groesbeck, Texas

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COMPLIANCE INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS



Team Lead	ODO
Assistant Team Lead	ODO
Inspections and Compliance Specialist	ODO
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Contractor	Creative Corrections
Contractor	Creative Corrections
Contractor	Creative Corrections
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 Limestone County Detention Center (LCDC) in Groesbeck, Texas, from January 10 to 12, 2023.¹ The facility opened in 1990 and is owned and operated by LaSalle Corrections. The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainees at LCDC in 2019 under the oversight of ERO’s Field Office Director in Houston (ERO Houston). ICE is an authorized user of this facility under a United States Marshals Service intergovernmental agreement contract, which does not specify an ICE National Detention Standard (NDS), and ODO inspected to the NDS listed on the ERO Facility List as of January 9, 2023. LCDC was inspected against the NDS 2019, and ODO’s assigned rating is for ERO’s informational purposes only.

ERO has no staff assigned to the facility. A warden handles daily facility operations and manages support personnel. Correct Commissary & Supplies provides food and commissary services, and LaSalle Corrections provides medical care at the facility. The facility does not hold any accreditations from any outside entities.

Capacity and Population Statistics	Quantity
ICE Bed Capacity ²	
Average ICE Population ³	
Adult Male Population (as of January 10, 2023)	
Adult Female Population (as of January 10, 2023)	

During its last inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, ODO found three deficiencies in the following areas: Environmental Health and Safety (1); Personal Hygiene (1); and Telephone Access (1).

¹ This facility holds male detainees with security classification levels for periods greater than 72 hours.

² Data Source: ERO Facility List as of January 9, 2023.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ LCDC’s FY 2022 average daily population was 27, which is why ODO scheduled LCDC for biannual inspections in FY 2023.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION PROCESS

ODO conducts oversight inspections of ICE detention facilities with an average daily population (ADP) 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.⁵

ODO identifies violations of ICE detention standards, ICE policies, or operational procedures, as “deficiencies.” ODO 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.

⁵ ODO reviews the facility’s compliance with selected standards in their entirety.

FINDINGS BY NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2019 MAJOR CATEGORIES

NDS 2019 Standards Inspected ^{6,7}	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	0
Funds and Personal Property	0
Hold Rooms in Detention Facilities	0
Use of Force and Restraints	0
Special Management Unit	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	1
Sub-Total	1
Part 5 - Activities	
Correspondence and Other Mail	2
Recreation	0
Visitation	0
Sub-Total	2
Part 6 - Justice	
Detainee Handbook	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	3

⁶ For greater detail on ODO's findings, see the *Compliance Inspection Findings* section of this report.

⁷ 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

The facility's detainee population count was zero throughout this inspection. As such, ODO did not conduct any detainee interviews during this inspection. Although the facility's population count was zero, the facility has an active contract to house ICE detainees and had an FY 2022 ADP of 27, meeting ODO's requirement of an ADP of 10 or more detainees for biannual inspections.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS

CARE

DISABILITY IDENTIFICATION, ASSESSMENT, AND ACCOMMODATION (DIAA)

ODO observed LCDC's detainee orientation video and found it made no reference to the facility's disability accommodations policy (**Deficiency DIAA-50⁸**).

Corrective Action: On January 10, 2023, the assistant warden and ERO supervisory detention and deportation officer approved a new PowerPoint presentation informing detainees of LCDC's disability accommodations policy, which the facility created to supplement their video. The same day, the assistant warden directed the admission and release supervisor to use the PowerPoint presentation as part of LCDC's orientation program. ODO observed the PowerPoint presentation and confirmed the presentation covered LCDC's policy on a detainee's right to request reasonable accommodations and how to make such requests with available translation and interpretation services (**C-1**).

ACTIVITIES

CORRESPONDENCE AND OTHER MAIL (COM)

ODO reviewed LCDC's COM policy and their site-specific detainee handbook, interviewed facility staff, and found the facility had not established a policy to ensure indigent detainees may mail at least five pieces of special correspondence or legal mail each week (**Deficiency COM-36⁹**). **This is a priority component.**

ODO reviewed LCDC's COM policy and their site-specific detainee handbook, interviewed facility staff, and found the facility provided writing paper, writing implements, and envelopes to indigent detainees at no cost, but other detainees had to purchase such items (**Deficiency COM-**

⁸ "The facility orientation program shall notify and inform detainees about the facility's disability accommodations policy, including their right to request reasonable accommodations and how to make such a request, in a language and/or manner they can understand." See ICE NDS 2019, Standard, Disability Identification, Assessment, and Accommodation, Section (II)(I).

⁹ "The facility shall establish procedures to provide indigent detainees the ability to mail a reasonable amount of mail each week at government expense, including the following: ...

2. At least five pieces of special correspondence or legal mail;"

See ICE NDS 2019, Standard, Correspondence and Other Mail, Section (II)(H)(2).

38¹⁰).

CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 19 standards under NDS 2019 and found the facility in compliance with 17 of those standards. ODO found three deficiencies in the remaining two standards. ODO recommends ERO Houston work with the facility to resolve any deficiencies that remain outstanding in accordance with contractual obligations. ODO has not received the uniform corrective action plan for ODO's last inspection of LCDC in July 2022.

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	FY 2022 (NDS 2019)	FY 2023 (NDS 2019)
Standards Reviewed	17	19
Deficient Standards	3	2
Overall Number of Deficiencies	3	3
Priority Component Deficiencies	0	1
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	1	1
Facility Rating	N/A	Superior

¹⁰ "The facility shall provide writing paper, writing implements and envelopes at no cost to detainees." *See* ICE NDS 2019, Standard, Correspondence and Other Mail, Section (II)(I).