



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
2024-001-270**

**Enforcement and Removal Operations
ERO San Diego Field Office**

**Imperial Regional Detention Facility
Calexico, California**

January 23-25, 2024

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION
of the
IMPERIAL REGIONAL DETENTION FACILITY
Calexico, California

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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 compliance inspection of the Imperial Regional Detention Facility (IRDF) in Calexico, California, from January 23 to 25, 2024.¹ The facility opened in 2014 and is owned by Imperial Valley Gateway Center, LLC and operated by Management and Training Corporation (MTC). The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainees at IRDF in 2014 under the oversight of ERO's Field Office Director in San Diego (ERO San Diego). The facility operates under the Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) 2011 (Revised 2016).

[REDACTED] A facility administrator handles daily operations and manages [REDACTED] support personnel. MTC provides food services and medical care, and Keefe Commissary provides commissary services at the facility. The facility was accredited by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care in February 2020 and the American Correctional Association in January 2022. In March 2021, IRDF was audited for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and was DHS PREA Certified.

Capacity and Population Statistics	Quantity
ICE Bed Capacity ²	[REDACTED]
Average ICE Population ³	[REDACTED]
Adult Male Population (as of January 23, 2024)	[REDACTED]
Adult Female Population (as of January 23, 2024)	[REDACTED]

During its last full inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, ODO found no deficiencies.

¹ This facility holds male and female detainees with low, medium-low, medium-high, and high security classification levels for periods greater than 72 hours.

² Data Source: ERO Custody Management Division Authorized Facility List as of January 16, 2024.

³ *Ibid.*

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION PROCESS

ODO conducts oversight inspections of ICE detention facilities with an average daily population of 10 or more, and where detainees are housed for over 72 hours, to assess compliance with ICE national detention standards. While these inspections focus on facility compliance with detention standards that directly affect detainee life, health, safety, and/or well-being, in FY 2024 ODO added additional standards to the scope of each full inspection to ensure ODO inspects every standard at each facility at least once every other year.⁴

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.

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

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

PBND Standards 2011 (Revised 2016) Standards Inspected ^{5,6}	Deficiencies
Part 1 - Safety	
Emergency Plans	0
Environmental Health and Safety	1
Sub-Total	1
Part 2 - Security	
Admission and Release	0
Custody Classification System	0
Facility Security and Control	0
Funds and Personal Property	0
Population Counts	0
Post Orders	0
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Special Management Units	0
Staff-Detainee Communication	0
Use of Force and Restraints	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 4 - Care	
Food Service	0
Hunger Strikes	0
Medical Care	1
Medical Care (Women)	0
Personal Hygiene	1
Significant Self-harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	2
Part 5 - Activities	
Correspondence and Other Mail	0
Marriage Requests	0
Religious Practices	0
Telephone Access	0
Voluntary Work Program	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 6 - Justice	

⁵ For greater detail on ODO's findings, see the *Compliance Inspection Findings* section of this report.

⁶ Beginning in FY 2024, ODO instituted a process of rotating all standards every other year. As a result, some standards may not be present in all inspections.

Grievance System	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 7 - Administration and Management	
Detention Files	0
Detainee Transfers	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	3

DETAINEE RELATIONS

ODO interviewed 36 detainees, who each voluntarily agreed to participate. None of the detainees made allegations of discrimination, mistreatment, or abuse. Most detainees reported satisfaction with facility services except for the concern listed below.

Medical Care: One detainee stated his concern over inadequate medical treatment at IRDF for his severe abdominal pain.

- Action Taken: ODO interviewed the health service administrator, reviewed the detainee's medical records, and confirmed surgery to remove his gallbladder in his country of origin in 2015. On January 13, 2024, the detainee arrived at IRDF and stated he always experiences stomach pain after eating. On January 22, 2024, IRDF medical staff sent the detainee to an off-site hospital for a computer tomography (CT) scan and additional medical tests. The CT results showed no abnormalities, but the medical test results indicated high levels of bilirubin. After receiving the medical test results, IRDF medical staff placed the detainee on a low-fat diet, and the detainee reported feeling better. On February 1, 2024, medical staff informed ODO of ERO San Diego's approval for the detainee's scheduled appointment with an off-site gastroenterologist on June 3, 2024.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS

SAFETY

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (EHS)

ODO interviewed the IRDF compliance manager, reviewed IRDF's standard operating procedures and 80 general area diagrams, toured IRDF, and found all 80 general area diagrams indicated fire hoses are located within the fire hose connection cabinets; however, none of the fire connection cabinets actually contained fire hoses (**Deficiency EHS-114**⁷).

⁷ "In addition to a general area diagram, the following information must be provided on signs: ...

c. Emergency equipment locations."

See ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Environmental Health and Safety, Section (V)(C)(5)(c).

CARE

MEDICAL CARE (MC)

ODO reviewed [REDACTED] comprehensive health assessments and found in [REDACTED] out of [REDACTED] assessments, no review by the clinical medical authority to determine the priority for treatment (**Deficiency MC-140⁸**).

PERSONAL HYGIENE (PH)

ODO interviewed the IRDF compliance manager, reviewed housing unit water temperature logs, and found IRDF staff recorded housing unit water temperature readings quarterly instead of daily (**Deficiency PH-40⁹**).

CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 26 standards under PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016) and found the facility in compliance with 23 of those standards.¹⁰ Since IRDF's last full inspection in January 2023, the facility's compliance with the ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016) has remained high, but trended slightly downward. IRDF went from no deficient standards in January 2023 to 3 deficient standards and 3 deficiencies during this most recent full inspection. ODO found IRDF fully compliant during both FY 2023 inspections and did not require a uniform corrective action plan for either inspection. ODO recommends ERO San Diego continue to work with the facility to resolve the deficiencies that remain outstanding in accordance with contractual obligations.

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	FY 2023 Full Inspection (PBNDS 2011) (Revised 2016)	FY 2024 Full Inspection (PBNDS 2011) (Revised 2016)
Standards Reviewed	25	26
Deficient Standards	0	3
Overall Number of Deficiencies	0	3
Priority Component Deficiencies	0	0
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	0	0
Facility Rating	Superior	Superior

⁸ "The CMA shall be responsible for review of all comprehensive health assessments to assess the priority for treatment." See ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Medical Care, Section (V)(M).

⁹ "Inspections of housing units shall periodically measure and document water temperature in the daily log." See ICE PBNDS 2011(Revised 2016), Standard, Personal Hygiene, Section (V)(E).

¹⁰ The ODO team was short 1 team member for this inspection and deferred 3 out of the initially planned 29 standards to the FY 2024 follow-up inspection.