

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 2024-002-198

Enforcement and Removal Operations ERO New Orleans Field Office

Adams County Detention Center Natchez, Mississippi

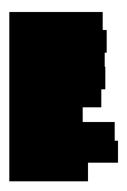
January 23-25, 2024

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION of the ADAMS COUNTY DETENTION CENTER Natchez, Mississippi

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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 Adams County Detention Center (ACDC) in Natchez, Mississippi, from January 23 to 25, 2024.¹ The facility opened in 2007 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).

warden handles daily facility operations and manages

support personnel. Trinity Services provides food services, CoreCivic provides medical care, and Keefe Commissary provides commissary services at the facility. The facility was accredited by the American Correctional Association in August 2019 and National Commission on Correctional Health Care in January 2020. In June 2022, ACDC 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		
Average ICE Population ³		
Adult Male Population (as of January 23, 2024)		
Adult Female Population (as of January 23, 2024)		

During its last full inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, ODO found 4 deficiencies in the following areas: Correspondence and Other Mail (2); Disciplinary System (1); and Environmental Health and Safety (1).

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 22, 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

PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016) Standards Inspected ^{5,6}	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
Population Counts	0
Post Orders	0
Searches of Detainees	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	0
Medical Care (Women)	0
Personal Hygiene	0
Significant Self-harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 5 - Activities	0
Correspondence and Other Mail	0
Trips for Non-Medical Emergencies	0
Marriage Requests	0
Religious Practice	0
Telephone Access	0
Voluntary Work Program	0

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.

Sub-Total	0
Part 6 - Justice	0
Grievance System	0
Law Libraries and Legal Material	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 7 - Administration and Management	
Detention Files	0
Detainee Transfers	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	0

DETAINEE RELATIONS

ODO interviewed 42 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.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS

ODO found no deficiencies during the inspection.

CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 29 standards under PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016) and found the facility in compliance with all 29 standards. Since ACDC's last full inspection in January 2023, the facility has trended upward. ACDC went from 3 deficient standards and 4 deficiencies in January 2023 to no deficient standards. The facility's improved performance is likely the result of a combined effort between ERO New Orleans and ACDC in completing the uniform corrective action plan for ODO's last full inspection of ACDC in January 2023. ODO recommends ERO New Orleans continue to work with the facility to ensure the facility maintains their high-level of compliance with PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016).

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	FY 2023 Full Inspection (PBNDS 2011) (Revised 2016)	FY 2024 Full Inspection (PBNDS 2011) (Revised 2016)
Standards Reviewed	25	29
Deficient Standards	3	0
Overall Number of Deficiencies	4	0
Priority Component Deficiencies	0	0
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	0	0
Facility Rating	Superior	Superior

Office of Detention Oversight January 2024