

Office of Professional Responsibility

Mesa Verde ICE Processing Center Compliance Inspection 2025-001-131

April 15-17, 2025



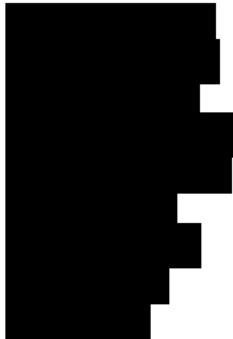
U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION
of the
MESA VERDE ICE PROCESSING CENTER
Bakersfield, California

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COMPLIANCE INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS

	Team Lead	ODO
	Senior Inspections and Compliance Specialist	ODO
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	Contractor	Creative Corrections
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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 Mesa Verde ICE Processing Center (MVIPC) in Bakersfield, California, from April 15 to 17, 2025.¹ The facility opened in 2015 and is owned and operated by the Geo Group, Inc. (GEO). The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainees at MVIPC in 2015 under the oversight of ERO's Field Office Director in San Francisco (ERO San Francisco). The facility operates under the Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) 2011 (Revised 2016).

[REDACTED] A chief of security handles daily facility operations and manages [REDACTED] support personnel. GEO provides food services and medical care, and Union Supply Group provides commissary services at the facility. The facility was accredited by the American Correctional Association in January 2023 and the National Commission on Correctional Health Care in June 2024. In March 2024, MVIPC 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 April 15, 2025)	[REDACTED]
Adult Female Population (as of April 15, 2025)	[REDACTED]

During its last rated inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, ODO found 2 deficiencies in the following areas: Environmental Health and Safety (1) and Custody Classification System (1).

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

² Data Source: ERO Custody Management Division Authorized Facility List as of April 14, 2025.

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 2011 (Revised 2016) Standards Inspected ^{5,6}	Deficiencies
Part 1 - Safety	
Emergency Plans	0
Environmental Health and Safety	0
Transportation (By Land)	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 2 - Security	
Admission and Release	0
Custody Classification System	0
Contraband	0
Funds and Personal Property	0
Hold Rooms in Detention Facilities	1
Key and Lock Control	0
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Special Management Units	0
Staff-Detainee Communication	0
Tool Control	0
Use of Force and Restraints	0
Sub-Total	1
Part 3 - Order	
Disciplinary System	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 4 - Care	
Food Service	0
Medical Care	0
Medical Care (Women)	0
Significant Self-harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention	0
Terminal Illness, Advance Directives and Death	0
Disability Identification, Assessment, and Accommodation	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 5 - Activities	
Recreation	0
Visitation	0
Sub-Total	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.

Part 6 - Justice	
Detainee Handbook	0
Grievance System	0
Legal Rights Group Presentations	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 7 - Administration and Management	
Interview and Tours	0
Staff Training	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	1

DETAINEE RELATIONS

ODO interviewed three detainees, who each voluntarily agreed to participate. Eight detainees declined ODO's request for an interview. None of the detainees made allegations of discrimination, mistreatment, or abuse. All detainees reported satisfaction with the facility's services.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS

SECURITY

HOLD ROOMS IN DETENTION FACILITIES (HRDF)

ODO observed the three facility hold rooms and found in three out of three hold rooms, no floor drains (**Deficiency HRDF-11.7**).⁸

CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 28 standards under PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016) and found the facility in compliance with 27 of those standards. ODO found one deficiency in the remaining standard. Since MVIPC's last rated inspection in January 2024, the facility's compliance with the ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016) trended upward. MVIPC went from 2 deficient standards and 2 deficiencies in January 2024 to 1 deficient standard and 1 deficiency during this most recent inspection. ODO received MVIPC's completed uniform corrective action plan for its last inspection in January 2024, which likely resolved previous deficiencies ODO cited. ODO recommends ERO San Francisco continue to work with the facility to resolve the deficiencies that remain outstanding in accordance with contractual obligations.

⁷ "Each hold room shall have floor drain(s)." See ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Hold Rooms in Detention Facilities, Section (V)(A)(7).

⁸ HRDF was not inspected during ODO's inspections in FY 2024, thus it appears as a new deficiency.

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	FY 2024 Full Inspection (PBNDS 2011) (Revised 2016)	FY 2025 Full Inspection (PBNDS 2011) (Revised 2016)
Standards Reviewed	29	28
Deficient Standards	2	1
Overall Number of Deficiencies	2	1
Priority Component Deficiencies	0	0
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	0	0
Facility Rating	Superior	Superior



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