

Office of Professional Responsibility

Washington County Detention Center Compliance Inspection 2025-006-088

April 24, 2025



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

ODO ASSISTED SELF-INSPECTION
of the
WASHINGTON COUNTY DETENTION CENTER
Fayetteville, Arkansas

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FACILITY OVERVIEW3

ODO ASSISTED SELF-INSPECTION PROCESS4

FINDINGS BY NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2019 MAJOR CATEGORIES5

DETAINEE RELATIONS6

ODO ASSISTED SELF-INSPECTION FINDINGS6

CONCLUSION6

ODO ASSISTED SELF-INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS



Team Lead
Inspections and Compliance Specialist

ODO
ODO

FACILITY OVERVIEW

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) Office of Detention Oversight (ODO) conducted an ODO assisted self-inspection process (OASIP) inspection of the Washington County Detention Center (WCDC) in Fayetteville, Arkansas, from March 26 to April 24, 2025, which included a 1-day on-site visit on April 22, 2025.¹ The facility opened in 1997 and is owned and operated by the Washington County Sheriff's Office. The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainees at WCDC in 1997 under the oversight of ERO's Field Office Director in New Orleans (ERO New Orleans). 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). ODO inspected WCDC against the NDS 2019, which is the NDS listed on the ERO Custody Management Division Authorized Facility List as of April 21, 2025.

[REDACTED] The Sheriff handles daily facility operations and manages [REDACTED] support personnel. Summit Correctional Services provides food and commissary services, and Karas Correctional Health 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 April 22, 2025)	
Adult Female Population (as of April 22, 2025)	

During its last rated inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, ODO found 21 deficiencies in the following areas: Environmental Health and Safety (11); Food Service (2); Grievance System (1); Hunger Strikes (1); Medical Care (1); Significant Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention (1); Special Management Units (2); and Staff-Detainee Communication (2).

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 April 21, 2025.

³ *Ibid.*

ODO ASSISTED SELF-INSPECTION PROCESS

In FY 2025, ODO implemented an OASIP, which replaces the annual Special Review inspections ODO conducted at most low average daily population (ADP) and/or short-term use facilities. This new inspection framework is more reflective of the actual operational demand of facilities with a low ADP and/or short-term use. OASIP inspections focus on facility compliance with ICE NDS 2019 requirements that directly affect detainee life, health, safety, and/or well-being, and have corresponding Federal Performance Based Detention Standards requirements. Facilities have 30 calendar days to complete the OASIP inspection and ODO staff will go on site towards the end of the 30-day inspection window to observe facility conditions, interview ICE detainees, and spot-check the facility's reported findings.

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 as corrective actions. Where applicable, these corrective actions are annotated with "C" under the *ODO Assisted Self-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.

FINDINGS BY NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2019 MAJOR CATEGORIES

NDS 2019 Standards Inspected. ⁴	Deficiencies
Part 1 - Safety	
Environmental Health and Safety	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 2 - Security	
Admission and Release	0
Custody Classification System	0
Use of Force and Restraints	0
Staff-Detainee Communication	0
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 4 - Care	
Food Service	0
Medical Care	0
Personal Hygiene	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 6 - Justice	
Grievance System	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	0

⁴ For greater detail on ODO's findings, see the ODO Assisted Self-Inspection Findings section of this report.

DETAINEE RELATIONS

The facility's ICE detainee population count was zero during the on-site inspection; therefore, ODO did not conduct any detainee interviews. Despite the facility housing no detainees during the on-site inspection, the facility maintains an active contract to house ICE detainees and had an ADP of 4 ICE detainees for FY 2024.

ODO ASSISTED SELF-INSPECTION FINDINGS

ODO found no deficiencies during the inspection.

CONCLUSION

During this OASIP, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 10 standards under NDS 2019 and found the facility in compliance with all 10 standards. This inspection is the facility's first OASIP. Since WCDC's last rated inspection in October 2023, the facility's compliance with NDS 2019 trended upward. WCDC went from 8 deficient standards and 21 deficiencies in October 2023 to no deficient standards or deficiencies during this most recent inspection. ODO received WCDC's completed uniform corrective action plan for its last inspection in October 2023, which likely resolved the previous deficiencies ODO cited. ODO recommends ERO New Orleans continue to work with the facility to ensure the facility maintains its high level of compliance with NDS 2019.

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	FY 2024 Special Review (NDS 2019)	FY 2025 OASIP (NDS 2019)
Standards Reviewed	10	10
Deficient Standards	8	0
Overall Number of Deficiencies	21	0
Priority Component Deficiencies	5	0
Repeat Deficiencies	N/A	0
Areas Of Concern	28	0
Corrective Actions	0	0
Facility Rating	Acceptable	Superior



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