

# Office of Professional Responsibility

**Chippewa County SSM**

**Compliance Inspection 2025-002-081**

**April 1-3, 2025**




U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

**COMPLIANCE INSPECTION**  
**of the**  
**CHIPPEWA COUNTY SSM**  
Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan

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## COMPLIANCE INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS

	Team Lead	ODO
	Senior Inspections and Compliance Specialist	ODO
	Senior Inspections and Compliance Specialist	ODO
	Inspections and Compliance Specialist	ODO
	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 Chippewa County SSM (CC) in Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan, from April 1 to 3, 2025.<sup>1</sup> The facility opened in 1954 and is owned by Chippewa County and operated by the Chippewa County Sheriff's Office. The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainees at CC in 2000 under the oversight of ERO's Field Office Director in Detroit (ERO Detroit). The facility operates under the National Detention Standards (NDS) 2019.

[REDACTED]. A facility administrator handles daily operations and manages [REDACTED] support personnel. Tigg's Canteen Services provides food services, Advanced Correctional Healthcare provides medical care, and Trinity Services provides commissary services at the facility. The facility does not hold any accreditations from any outside entities. In December 2023, CC 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 <sup>2</sup>	[REDACTED]
Average ICE Population <sup>3</sup>	[REDACTED]
Adult Male Population (as of April 1, 2025)	[REDACTED]
Adult Female Population (as of April 1, 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 Medical Care (1).

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

<sup>2</sup> Data Source: ERO Custody Management Division Authorized Facility List as of March 31, 2025.

<sup>3</sup> *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.<sup>4</sup>

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.

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<sup>4</sup> ODO reviews the facility’s compliance with selected standards in their entirety.

## FINDINGS BY NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2019 MAJOR CATEGORIES

NDS 2019 Standards Inspected <sup>5,6</sup>	Deficiencies
<b>Part 1 - Safety</b>	
Environmental Health and Safety	0
Transportation by Land	0
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Part 2 - Security</b>	
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 Units	0
Staff-Detainee Communication	0
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Part 3 - Order</b>	
Disciplinary System	0
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Part 4 - Care</b>	
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	0
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Part 5 - Activities</b>	
Recreation	0
Visitation	0
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Part 6 - Justice</b>	
Detainee Handbook	0
Grievance System	0
Legal Rights Group Presentations	0
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Deficiencies</b>	<b>0</b>

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

<sup>6</sup> 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.

## DETAINEE RELATIONS

ODO interviewed 12 detainees, who each voluntarily agreed to participate. ODO attempted to interview 24 additional detainees; however, all 24 detainees declined ODO's request for an interview. 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 21 standards under NDS 2019 and found the facility in compliance with all 21 of those standards. Since CC's last rated inspection in April 2024, the facility's compliance with the ICE NDS 2019 has trended upward. CC went from 2 deficiencies in 10 standards in April 2024 to no deficient standards during this most recent full inspection. ODO received CC's completed uniform corrective action plan for its last inspection in April 2024, which likely resolved the previous deficiencies ODO cited. ODO recommends ERO continue to work with the facility to ensure the facility maintains its high level of compliance with NDS 2019.

<b>Compliance Inspection Results Compared</b>	<b>FY 2024 Special Review (NDS 2019)</b>	<b>FY 2025 Full Inspection (NDS 2019)</b>
Standards Reviewed	10	21
Deficient Standards	2	0
Overall Number of Deficiencies	2	0
Priority Component Deficiencies	1	0
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	0	0
Facility Rating	Good	Superior



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