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Office of Detention Oversight
Special Review
2024-003-296

Enforcement and Removal Operations
ERO Harlingen Field Office

Coastal Bend Detention Facility
Robstown, Texas

February 6-8, 2024

**SPECIAL REVIEW
of the
COASTAL BEND DETENTION FACILITY
Robstown, Texas**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FACILITY OVERVIEW	4
SPECIAL REVIEW PROCESS	5
FINDINGS BY NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2019 MAJOR CATEGORIES	6
DETAINEE RELATIONS	7
SPECIAL REVIEW FINDINGS	7
CONCLUSION	7

SPECIAL REVIEW 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 special review of the Coastal Bend Detention Facility (CBDF) in Robstown, Texas, from February 6-8, 2024.¹ The facility opened in 2008 and is owned and operated by The GEO Group Inc. (GEO). The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainees at CBDF in 2017 under the oversight of ERO's Field Office Director in Harlingen (ERO Harlingen). 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), and ODO inspected to the NDS listed on the ERO Custody Management Division Authorized Facility List as of January 29, 2024. CBDF was inspected against the NDS 2019, and ODO's assigned rating is for ERO's informational purposes only.

[REDACTED] A CBDF facility administrator handles daily operations and manages [REDACTED] support personnel. Single Source provides food services, GEO provides medical care, and Keefe Commissary provides commissary services at the facility. The facility does not hold any accreditations from any outside entities. In July 2020, CBDF was audited for the Department of Justice (DOJ) Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and was DOJ PREA certified.

Capacity and Population Statistics	Quantity
ICE Bed Capacity ²	[REDACTED]
Average ICE Population ³	[REDACTED]
Adult Male Population (as of February 6, 2024)	[REDACTED]
Adult Female Population (as of February 6, 2024)	[REDACTED]

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

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

² Data Source: ERO Custody Management Division Authorized Facility List as of February 5, 2024.

³ *Ibid.*

SPECIAL REVIEW PROCESS

ODO conducts oversight inspections of ICE detention facilities with an average daily population (ADP) 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.

In FY 2022, ODO began conducting special reviews of under 72-hour ICE detention facilities with an ADP of 1 or more detainees and over 72-hour ICE detention facilities with an ADP of 1 to 9 detainees. Additionally, ODO began conducting unannounced inspections of ICE detention facilities, regardless of ADP of detainees, as well as reviews of ICE special/emerging detention facilities/programs. As such, these facility inspections will result in an ODO Inspection Compliance Rating; however, for facilities that are not contractually obligated to an ICE NDS, those ratings will be for ERO’s informational purposes. ODO will conduct a complete review of several core standards, in accordance with the facility’s contractually required ICE NDS or in accordance with the ICE NDS listed in the current ERO Custody Management Division Authorized Facility List for facilities that are not contractually obligated to an ICE NDS, which may include but are not limited to Medical Care/Health Care, Medical Care (Women)/Health Care (Females), Significant Self-harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention, Hunger Strikes, Food Service, Environmental Health and Safety, Special Management Units (SMU) or Hold Rooms (if the facility does not have an SMU), Use of Force and Restraints/Use of Physical Control Measures, and Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention.

Upon completion of each special review or unannounced 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 uniform corrective action plans (UCAPs); 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 NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2019 MAJOR CATEGORIES

NDS 2019 Standards Inspected ^{5,6}	Deficiencies
Part 1 - Safety	
Environmental Health and Safety	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 2 - Security	
Hold Rooms in Detention Facilities	0
Post Orders	0
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Use of Force and Restraints	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 4 - Care	
Food Service	0
Hunger Strikes	0
Medical Care	0
Significant Self-harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 6 - Justice	
Detainee Handbook	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	0

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

⁶ During a special review, ODO will review a facility's compliance with at least 10 individual standards.

DETAINEE RELATIONS

ODO interviewed three 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.

SPECIAL REVIEW FINDINGS

ODO found no deficiencies during this inspection.

CONCLUSION

During this special review, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 10 standards under NDS 2019 and found the facility in compliance with all 10 standards. ODO noted that CBDF recently migrated to NDS 2019 as of February 2024. ODO also noted the use of Performance Based National Detention Standards 2008 (PBNDS 2008) for the last full inspection of CBDF in December 2022 and the facility's compliance in 23 out of 23 standards. ODO recommends ERO Harlingen works with the facility to maintain its high level of compliance with the NDS 2019.

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	FY 2023 Full Inspection (PBNDS 2008)	FY 2024 Special Review (NDS 2019)
Standards Reviewed	23	10
Deficient Standards	0	0
Overall Number of Deficiencies	0	0
Priority Component Deficiencies	0	0
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	0	0
Facility Rating	Superior	Superior