

Office of Detention Oversight Compliance Inspection

Enforcement and Removal Operations ERO Dallas Field Office

Eden Detention Center Eden, Texas

January 3-6, 2022

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION of the EDEN DETENTION CENTER

Eden, Texas

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FACILITY OVERVIEW	4
COMPLIANCE INSPECTION PROCESS	5
FINDINGS BY NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2000	
MAJOR CATEGORIES	6
DETAINEE RELATIONS	7
COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS	7
DETAINEE SERVICES	7
Funds and Personal Property	7
SECURITY AND CONTROL	7
Detention Files	7
CONCLUSION	8

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS



Team LeadODOAssistant Team LeadODOInspections and Compliance SpecialistODOContractorCreating

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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 Eden Detention Center (EDC) in Eden, Texas, from January 3 to 6, 2022. The facility opened in 2019 and is owned and operated by CoreCivic. The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainees at EDC in 2019 under the oversight of ERO's Field Office Director in Dallas (ERO Dallas). The facility operates under the National Detention Standards (NDS) 2000.

ERO has assigned deportation officers (DOs) and a detention services manager to the facility. An EDC warden handles daily facility operations and manages support personnel. Trinity Food Service provides food services, EDC provides medical care, and Keefe Supply Company provides commissary services at the facility. The facility does not hold any accreditations from any outside entities.

Capacity and Population Statistics	Qua	ntity
ICE Detainee Bed Capacity ²		
Average ICE Detainee Population ³	_	
Male Detainee Population (as of January 3, 2022)		
Female Detainee Population (as of January 3, 2022)		

During its last inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021, ODO found four deficiencies in the following areas: Admission and Release (1); Funds and Personal Property (2); and Medical Care (1).

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

² Data Source: ERO Facility List Report as of January 3, 2022.

³ Ibid.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION PROCESS

ODO conducts oversight inspections of ICE detention facilities with an average daily population greater than 10, and where detainees are housed for longer than 72 hours, to assess compliance with ICE national detention standards. These inspections focus solely on facility compliance with detention standards that directly affect detainee life, health, safety, and/or well-being.⁴

ODO identifies violations of ICE detention standards, ICE policies, or operational procedures as "deficiencies." ODO also highlights instances in which 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 its decision-making to better allocate resources across the agency's entire detention inventory.

ODO was unable to conduct an on-site inspection of this facility, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and instead, conducted a remote inspection of the facility. During this remote inspection, ODO interviewed facility staff, ERO field office staff, and detainees, reviewed files and detention records, and was able to assess compliance for at least 90 percent or more of the ICE national detention standards reviewed during the inspection.

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⁴ ODO reviews the facility's compliance with selected standards in their entirety.

FINDINGS BY NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2000 **MAJOR CATEGORIES**

NDS 2000 Standards Inspected ^{5,6}	Deficiencies
Part 1 – Detainee Services	
Admission and Release	0
Correspondence and Other Mail	0
Detainee Classification System	0
Food Service	0
Funds and Personal Property	1
Group Presentations on Legal Rights	0
Issuance and Exchange of Clothing, Bedding and Towels	0
Marriage Requests	0
Non-Medical Emergency Escorted Trips	0
Voluntary Work Program	0
Sub-Total	1
Part 2 – Security and Control	
Detention Files	4
Detainee Transfers	0
Emergency Plans	0
Environmental Health and Safety	0
Post Orders	0
Special Management Unit (Administrative Segregation)	0
Special Management Unit (Disciplinary Segregation)	0
Use of Force	0
Sub-Total	4
Part 3 – Health Services	
Hunger Strikes	0
Medical Care	0
Suicide Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	0
Other Standard Reviewed	
NDS 2019 Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	5

For greater detail on ODO's findings, see the *Compliance Inspection Findings* section of this report.
 Beginning in FY 2022, ODO instituted a process of rotating all standards on a 3-year basis. As a result, some standard components may not be present in all inspections.

DETAINEE RELATIONS

ODO interviewed 12 detainees, who each voluntarily agreed to participate. None of the detainees made allegations of discrimination, mistreatment, or abuse. Most detainees reported satisfaction with facility services except for the concern listed below. ODO attempted to conduct detainee interviews via video teleconference; however, the ERO field office and facility were not able to accommodate this request due to technology issues. As such, ODO conducted the detainee interviews via telephone.

Staff-Detainee Communication: One detainee stated ERO Dallas did not respond to his request for an updated status on his immigration case.

Action Taken: ODO found no written requests for an updated immigration case status in the
detainee's file but informed the supervisory detention and deportation officer (SDDO) of the
detainee's complaint. On January 4, 2022, the SDDO confirmed an ERO Dallas DO
contacted the detainee on the same day, provided a case update, and answered all the detainee's
questions and concerns. ODO requested facility staff to review the process for submitting
immigration status requests with the detainee.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS

DETAINEE SERVICES

FUNDS AND PERSONAL PROPERTY (FPP)

ODO reviewed the facility's FPP program and found the facility's site-specific detainee handbook did not inform detainees of the facility's policies and procedures concerning personal property. Specifically, the detainee handbook lacked procedures for claiming property upon release, transfer, or removal and for filing a claim for lost or damaged property (**Deficiency FPP**⁷).

SECURITY AND CONTROL

DETENTION FILES (DF)

ODO reviewed detainee detention files and found the admissions officer did not note out of files as activated/active (**Deficiency DF-5***).

ODO reviewed detainee detention files and found out of files lacked housing identification cards and out of files had no Baggage Check forms (Form I-77) (**Deficiency**

⁷ "The detainee handbook or equivalent shall notify the detainees of facility policies and procedures concerning personal property, including: ...

^{4.} The procedure for claiming property upon release, transfer, or removal.

^{5.} The procedures for filing a claim for lost or damaged property."

See ICE NDS 2000, Standard, Funds and Personal Property, Section (III)(J)(4)(5).

⁸ "The officer completing the admissions portion of the detention file will note that the file has been activated." *See* ICE NDS 2000, Standard, Detention Files, Section (III)(A)(2).

DF-99).

ODO reviewed two archived detainee detention files and found in two out of two files, the facility's closing officer did not notate the detainee's file as completed and ready for archiving (**Deficiency DF-23**¹⁰).

ODO reviewed the facility's DF program and found the facility maintains a detainee detention file logbook; however, the detention logbook did not include: the detainee's non-citizenship number, the time facility staff removed and returned the file from the storage location, nor signature lines for removal and return of files (**Deficiency DF-30** ¹¹).

CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 21 standards under NDS 2000, 1 standard under NDS 2019, and found the facility in compliance with 20 of those standards. ODO found five deficiencies in the remaining two standards. ODO commends facility staff members for their responsiveness during this inspection. ERO provided ODO with the uniform corrective action plan for ODO's last inspection of EDC on November 2, 2021.

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	FY 2021 (NDS 2000)	FY 2022 (NDS 2000)/ (NDS 2019)
Standards Reviewed	12	21/1
Deficient Standards	3	2
Overall Number of Deficiencies	4	5
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	1	0
Facility Rating	N/A	Superior

⁹ "The detainee detention file will contain either originals or copies of forms and other documents generated during the admissions process. The file will, at a minimum, contain the following: ...

d. Housing Identification Card; ...

f. I-77, Baggage Check(s)." See ICE NDS 2000, Detention Files, Section (III)(B)(1)(d)(f).

¹⁰ "The officer closing the detention file will make a notation (on the acknowledgement form, if applicable) that the file is complete and ready for archiving." *See* ICE NDS 2000, Standard, Detention Files, Section (III)(E)(3).

¹¹ "A representative of the department requesting the file is responsible for obtaining the file, logging it out, and ensuring its return. At a minimum, a logbook entry recording the file's removal from the cabinet will include:

a. The detainee's name and A-File number;

b. Date and time removed;

c. Signature of person removing the file, including title and department;

d. Date and time returned; and

e. Signature of person returning the file." See ICE NDS 2000, Standard, Detention Files, Section (III)(F)(a)(b)(d)(e).