



U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Office of Professional Responsibility
ICE Inspections
Washington, DC 20536-5501

**Office of Detention Oversight
Compliance Inspection
2024-001-255**

**Enforcement and Removal Operations
ERO Houston Field Office**

**Joe Corley Processing Center
Conroe, Texas**

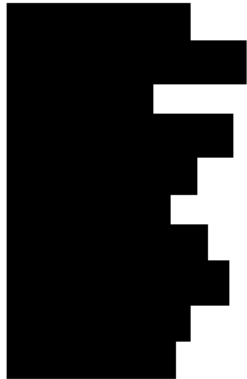
December 12-14, 2023

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION
of the
JOE CORLEY PROCESSING CENTER
Conroe, Texas

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COMPLIANCE INSPECTION 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 compliance inspection of the Joe Corley Processing Center (JCPC) in Conroe, Texas, from December 12 to 14, 2023.¹ 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 JCPC in 2008 under the oversight of ERO’s Field Office Director in Houston (ERO Houston). The facility operates under the National Detention Standards (NDS) 2019.

[REDACTED] A facility administrator handles daily operations and manages [REDACTED] support personnel. GEO provides food services and medical care, and Keefe Commissary provides commissary services at the facility. The facility was accredited by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care in June 2018 and the American Correctional Association in January 2019. In June 2018, JCPC 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 December 12, 2023)	[REDACTED]
Adult Female Population (as of December 12, 2023)	[REDACTED]

During its last full inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, ODO found 1 deficiency in the following area: Transportation by Land (1).

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 December 11, 2023.

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 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	
Admission and Release	0
Custody Classification System	0
Facility Security and Control	0
Funds and Personal Property	0
Post Orders	0
Searches of Detainees	0
Use of Force and Restraints	0
Special Management Units	0
Staff-Detainee Communication	0
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 4 - Care	
Food Service	0
Hunger Strikes	0
Medical Care	0
Personal Hygiene	0
Significant Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 5 - Activities	
Correspondence and Other Mail	0
Religious Practices	0
Telephone Access	0
Voluntary Work Program	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 6 - Justice	
Grievance System	0
Law Libraries and Legal Materials	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 7 - Administration and Management	

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.

Detention Files	0
Detainee Transfers	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	0

DETAINEE RELATIONS

ODO interviewed 39 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.

Medical Care: One detainee stated his concern over waiting for a psychiatric appointment and receiving mental health medication.

Action Taken: ODO interviewed the director of nursing, reviewed the detainee’s medical record, and found the detainee submitted a sick call request on December 1, 2023, for a mental health appointment. On the same day, a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) obtained a mental health services consent form, evaluated the detainee, instructed him on relaxation techniques, and scheduled an appointment with the facility psychiatrist on December 18, 2023. The detainee acknowledged understanding the treatment plan and returned to his housing unit. On December 14, 2023, at ODO’s request, the LCSW reminded the detainee of his upcoming appointment with the psychiatrist. On December 18, 2023, the facility psychiatrist evaluated and diagnosed the detainee with post-traumatic stress disorder, prescribed Remeron (15 mg) for 30 days in the evening with an increase to (30 mg) for 90 days and scheduled a follow-up evaluation in 30 days. The detainee acknowledged understanding the treatment plan and returned to his housing unit. ODO confirmed with ERO Houston that the detainee attended a medical follow-up appointment and is doing well on his prescribed medication and has been instructed to continue the medication. Another follow up will take place in 30 days. His anxiety and depression are currently manageable.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS

ODO noted no deficiencies during this inspection.

CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility’s compliance with 24 standards under NDS 2019 and found the facility in compliance with all 24 standards. Since JCPC’s last full inspection in January 2023, the facility has maintained a high-level of compliance with NDS 2019. JCPC went from 1 deficient standard and 1 deficiency in January 2023 to no deficient standards during this most recent inspection. ODO received the facility’s completed uniform corrective action plan for its last full inspection in January 2023 full inspection, which resolved the previous deficiency. ODO recommends ERO Houston continue to work with the facility to ensure the facility maintains their high-level of compliance with the NDS 2019.

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	FY 2023 Full Inspection (NDS 2019)	FY 2024 Full Inspection (NDS 2019)
Standards Reviewed	19	24
Deficient Standards	1	0
Overall Number of Deficiencies	1	0
Priority Component Deficiencies	0	0
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	0	0
Facility Rating	Superior	Superior