



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**

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

**Joe Corley Processing Center
Conroe, Texas**


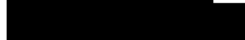
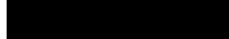
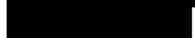
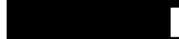
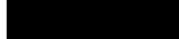
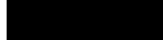
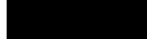
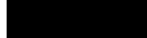
January 10-12, 2023

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION
of the
JOE CORLEY PROCESSING CENTER
Conroe, Texas

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COMPLIANCE INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS

	Team Lead	ODO
	Senior Inspections and Compliance Specialist	ODO
	Inspections and Compliance Specialist	ODO
	Inspections and Compliance Specialist	ODO
	Section Chief	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 Joe Corley Processing Center (JCPC) in Conroe, Texas, from January 10 to 12, 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.

ERO has assigned deportation officers and a detention services manager (DSM) to the facility. A warden handles daily facility operations and manages 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	
Average ICE Population ³	
Adult Male Population (as of January 10, 2023)	
Adult Female Population (as of January 10, 2023)	

During its last inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, ODO found seven deficiencies in the following areas: Environmental Health and Safety (2); Medical Care (4); and Staff-Detainee Communication (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 Facility List as of January 9, 2023.

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 over 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 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
Transportation by Land	1
Sub-Total	1
Part 2 - Security	
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 Unit	0
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 3 - Order	
Disciplinary System	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 4 - Care	
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
Sub-Total	0
Part 5 - Activities	
Correspondence and Other Mail	0
Recreation	0
Visitation	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 6 - Justice	
Detainee Handbook	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	1

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

⁶ 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 standards.

DETAINEE RELATIONS

ODO interviewed 21 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.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS

SAFETY

TRANSPORTATION BY LAND (TL)

ODO interviewed the JCPC transportation supervisor, reviewed transportation policy, and found no written policy nor implemented procedures governing seating of detainees in transport vehicles (**Deficiency TL-22⁷**).

CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 19 standards under NDS 2019 and found the facility in compliance with 18 of those standards. ODO found one deficiency in the remaining standard. Since JCPC's last full inspection in December 2021, the facility has maintained consistent compliance with the ICE NDS 2019. JCPC went from zero deficient standards and zero deficiencies in December 2021 to 1 deficient standard and 1 deficiency during this most recent inspection. However, the standard ODO found deficient was the Transportation by Land standard, which ODO did not inspect during JCPC's inspection in December 2021. The facility's consistent performance was a result of completing a uniform corrective action plan for ODO's follow-up inspection of JCPC in July 2022, presence of a DSM at the facility, and ERO Houston maintaining a daily on-site presence, working with facility staff. ODO recommends ERO Houston continue to work with the facility to resolve the one deficiency that remains outstanding in accordance with contractual obligations.

⁷ "The facility will develop written policy and implementing procedures governing the seating of detainees in transportation vehicles." *See* ICE NDS 2019, Standard, Transportation by Land, Section (II)(I).

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	FY 2022 Full Inspection (NDS 2019)	FY 2023 Full Inspection (NDS 2019)
Standards Reviewed	19	19
Deficient Standards	0	1
Overall Number of Deficiencies	0	1
Priority Component Deficiencies	N/A	0
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	0	0
Facility Rating	Superior	Superior