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U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Office of Professional Responsibility
ICE Inspections
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**Office of Detention Oversight
Compliance Inspection
2024-001-292**

**Enforcement and Removal Operations
ERO San Antonio Field Office**

**Karnes County Immigration Processing Center
Karnes City, Texas**

March 19-21, 2024

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION
of the
KARNES COUNTY IMMIGRATION PROCESSING CENTER
Karnes City, Texas

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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 PERFORMANCE-BASED NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2011 (REVISED 2016) MAJOR CATEGORIES

PBNDs 2011 (Revised 2016) Standards Inspected ^{5,6}	Deficiencies
Part 1 - Safety	
Emergency Plans	0
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
Population Counts	0
Post Orders	1
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Staff-Detainee Communication	0
Use of Force and Restraints	0
Sub-Total	1
Part 4 - Care	
Food Service	0
Hunger Strikes	0
Medical Care	0
Medical Care (Women)	0
Significant Self-harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 5 - Activities	
Correspondence and Other Mail	0
Trips for Non-Medical Emergencies	0
Marriage Requests	0
Religious Practices	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 6 - Justice	
Grievance System	0
Law Libraries and Legal Material	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	1

DETAINEE RELATIONS

ODO interviewed 46 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

SECURITY

POST ORDERS (PO)

ODO reviewed all POs for armed and perimeter-access post assignments and found the POs do not contain circumstances and conditions authorizing the use of firearms (**Deficiency PO-23**⁷).

CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 24 standards⁸ under PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016) and found the facility in compliance with 23 of those standards. ODO found one deficiency in the remaining standard. Since KCIPC's last full inspection in March 2023, the facility's compliance with the ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016) has trended upward. KCIPC went from 3 deficient standards and 7 deficiencies in March 2023 to 1 deficient standard and 1 deficiency during this most recent full inspection. ERO provided ODO with a uniform corrective action plan for ODO's last full inspection in December 2023, which likely resolved the previous deficiencies. ODO recommends ERO San Antonio continue to work with the facility to resolve the deficiency that remains outstanding in accordance with contractual obligations.

⁷ "In addition to the above requirements for all post orders, post orders for armed and perimeter-access post assignments shall describe and explain: ...

2. Circumstances and conditions under which use of firearms is authorized."

See ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Post Orders, Section (V)(F)(2).

⁸ "ODO notes due to KCIPC's low security level status, there is no contractual obligation for the facility to maintain a Security Management Unit."

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	FY 2023 Full Inspection (PBNDS 2011) (Revised 2016)	FY 2024 Full Inspection (PBNDS 2011) (Revised 2016)
Standards Reviewed	25	24
Deficient Standards	3	1
Overall Number of Deficiencies	7	1
Priority Component Deficiencies	1	0
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	0	0
Facility Rating	Superior	Superior