



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

**Office of Detention Oversight
Compliance Inspection**

**Enforcement and Removal Operations
ERO New Orleans Field Office**

**Pine Prairie ICE Processing Center
Pine Prairie, Louisiana**

February 7-10, 2022

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION
of the
PINE PRAIRIE ICE PROCESSING CENTER
Pine Prairie, Louisiana

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COMPLIANCE INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS



Team Lead	ODO
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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 Pine Prairie ICE Processing Center (PPIPC) in Pine Prairie, Louisiana, from February 7 to 10, 2022.¹ The facility opened in 2016 and is owned and operated by The GEO Group, Inc. (GEO). The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainees at PPIPC in 2016 under the oversight of ERO’s Field Office Director in New Orleans (ERO New Orleans). The facility operates under the Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) 2011 (Revised 2016).

ERO has assigned deportation officers and a detention services manager to the facility. An officer in charge handles daily facility operations and manages [REDACTED] support personnel. GEO provides food services and medical care, and Keefe Commissary Network provides commissary services at the facility. The National Commission on Correctional Health Care accredited the facility in June 2020. In March 2018, PPIPC 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 February 7, 2022)	[REDACTED]
Adult Female Population (as of February 7, 2022)	[REDACTED]

During its last inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021, ODO found two deficiencies in the following areas: Funds and Personal Property (1) and Use of Force and Restraints (1).

¹ This facility holds male 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 February 7, 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 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 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.

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

FINDINGS BY PERFORMANCE-BASED NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS (PBNDS) 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	1
Custody Classification System	3
Funds and Personal Property	1
Post Orders	0
Searches of Detainees	0
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Special Management Units	0
Use of Force and Restraints	1
Sub-Total	6
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
Marriage Requests	0
Trips for Non-Medical Emergencies	0
Voluntary Work Program	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 6 - Justice	
Legal Rights Group Presentations	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 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 Files	0
Detention Transfers	0
Interviews and Tours	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	6

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 concerns listed below. ODO conducted detainee interviews via video teleconference.

Medical Care: One detainee stated he submitted multiple sick call requests via the facility’s electronic tablet concerning pain in his mouth and has yet to receive medical attention.

- Action Taken: ODO interviewed the health services administrator (HSA), reviewed the detainee’s medical record, and confirmed the facility medical staff evaluated the detainee on August 22, 2021, and August 30, 2021, regarding pain in his mouth, and prescribed him ibuprofen (200 mg). On September 13, 2021, the detainee submitted a sick call request for a toothache, and the facility’s physician assistant examined him on the same day, prescribed codeine for the pain, and submitted a referral for an off-site orthodontist. On October 19, 2021, the detainee submitted a sick call request for a toothache, and the facility’s nurse practitioner examined him on the same day and prescribed Amoxil (500 mg) and Tylenol (500 mg). According to the detainee’s records, the facility staff scheduled the detainee’s appointment with an off-site orthodontist for February 15, 2022. ODO confirmed the orthodontist examined the detainee and advised him to continue his prescribed medications of Amoxil and Tylenol. Facility staff also scheduled the detainee for a tooth removal on March 10, 2022. On March 21, 2022, ODO confirmed with the facility’s medical staff that an off-site oral surgeon extracted the detainee’s tooth on that day.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS

SECURITY

ADMISSION AND RELEASE (AR)

ODO interviewed the facility’s AR intake lieutenant and classification manager, reviewed [REDACTED] detainee files, and found during the facility’s detainee admission processing, the facility does not conduct a criminal history check of a detainee; however, the facility relies on the ERO New Orleans supplied Record of Deportable/inadmissible Alien Form (I-213). ODO found there were no I-213 supplied in [REDACTED] out of [REDACTED] detainee admission files (**Deficiency AR-11**⁷).

⁷ “Admission processes for a newly admitted detainee shall include, but not be limited to: ...

CUSTODY CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM (CCS)

ODO interviewed the facility's CCS intake lieutenant and classification manager, reviewed [REDACTED] detainee files, and found during the facility's detainee initial classification processing, the facility does not conduct a criminal history check of a detainee; however, the facility relies on the ERO New Orleans supplied Form I-213. ODO found there were no Form I-213s supplied to complete the detainee classification process in [REDACTED] out of [REDACTED] detainee files (**Deficiency CCS-4⁸**).

ODO interviewed the facility's CCS intake lieutenant and classification manager, reviewed [REDACTED] detainee files, and found during the facility's classification process, the facility does not conduct a criminal history check of a detainee; however, the facility relies on the ERO New Orleans supplied Form I-213. ODO found there were no Form I-213s nor any other credible evidence supplied to the facility to complete the classification process in [REDACTED] out of [REDACTED] detainee files (**Deficiency CCS-12⁹**).

ODO interviewed the facility's CCS intake lieutenant and classification manager, reviewed [REDACTED] detainee files, and found during the facility's classification process, the facility does not conduct a criminal history check of a detainee; however, the facility relies on the ERO New Orleans supplied Form I-213. ODO found there were no Form I-213s nor any other credible evidence supplied to the facility to complete the classification process in [REDACTED] out of [REDACTED] detainee files (**Deficiency CCS-22¹⁰**).

FUNDS AND PERSONAL PROPERTY (FPP)

ODO reviewed the facility's FPP program and the facility's site-specific detainee handbook and found the site-specific detainee handbook does not notify detainees of the facility's rules for mailing property not allowed in their possession (**Deficiency FPP-17¹¹**).

USE OF FORCE AND RESTRAINTS (UOFR)

ODO interviewed the facility's chief of security, reviewed a calculated UOF video and information packet, and found a PPIPC supervisor participated in a calculated UOF as a team member on August 11, 2021. Specifically, a PPIPC lieutenant participated as a team member in the calculated

b. Criminal history check;"

See ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Admission and Release, Section (V)(B)(1)(b).

⁸ "ICE/ERO staff shall provide facilities the data needed from each detainee's file to complete the classification process." *See* ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Custody Classification System, Section (V)(A)(1).

⁹ "During the classification process, staff shall reference facts and other objective, credible evidence documented in the detainee's A-file, work-folders, ICE automated records systems, criminal history checks, or other objective sources of information." *See* ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Custody Classification System, Section (V)(C).

¹⁰ "As appropriate, ICE/ERO offices shall provide non-ICE/ERO facilities with the relevant information for the facility to classify ICE/ ERO detainees." *See* ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Custody Classification System, Section (V)(C).

¹¹ "The detainee handbook or equivalent shall notify the detainees of facility policies and procedures related to personal property, including: ...

3. the rules for mailing property not allowed in their possession." *See* ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Funds and Personal Property, Section (V)(C)(3).

UOF for purposes other than preventing impending staff injury (**Deficiency UOFR-82**¹²).

CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 23 standards under PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016) and found the facility in compliance with 19 of those standards. ODO found six deficiencies in the remaining four standards. ODO commends facility staff for its responsiveness during this inspection. ODO recommends ERO New Orleans work with the facility to resolve any deficiencies that remain outstanding in accordance with contractual obligations. ERO provided ODO with the uniform corrective action plan for ODO's last inspection of PPIP on January 6, 2022.

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	Second FY 2021 PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016)	First FY 2022 PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016)
Standards Reviewed	12	23
Deficient Standards	2	4
Overall Number of Deficiencies	2	6
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	0	0
Facility Rating	N/A	Superior

¹² "The shift supervisor or another supervisor on duty shall not participate except to prevent impending staff injury." See ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Use of Force and Restraints, Section (V)(I)(3)(d)(2).