



U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. 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 Dallas Field Office

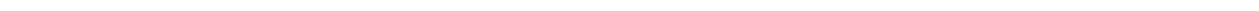
Prairieland Detention Center
Alvarado, Texas

January 25-29, 2021

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION
of the
PRAIRIELAND DETENTION CENTER
Alvarado, Texas

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COMPLIANCE INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS

[REDACTED]	Acting Team Lead	ODO
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FACILITY OVERVIEW

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Office of Professional Responsibility Office of Detention Oversight (ODO) conducted a compliance inspection of the Prairieland Detention Center (PDC) in Alvarado, Texas, from January 25 to 29, 2020.¹ The facility opened in January 2017, is owned by the City of Alvarado, and operated by LaSalle Corrections. The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainees at PDC in January 2017 under the oversight of ERO’s Field Office Director in Dallas (ERO Dallas). The facility operates under the Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) 2011 (Errata 2013).

ERO has assigned deportation officers and a detention services manager to the facility. A LaSalle Corrections facility administrator handles daily facility operations and is supported by ██████ personnel. LaSalle Corrections provides food services and medical care, and Correct Commissary provides commissary services at the facility. PDC does not hold any accreditations from any outside entities. In February 2020, PDC 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 Detainee Bed Capacity ²	782
Average ICE Detainee Population ³	████
Male Detainee Population (as of 1/24/2021)	████
Female Detainee Population (as of 1/24/2021)	████

During its last inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2020, ODO found five deficiencies in the following areas: Disability Identification, Assessment and Accommodation (1); Environmental Health and Safety (1); and Staff-Detainee Communication (3).

¹ This facility holds both male and female 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 24, 2021.

³ *Ibid.*

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION PROCESS

ODO conducts oversight inspections of ICE detention facilities with an average daily population greater than ten, 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 their 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 2011 (ERRATA 2013) MAJOR CATEGORIES

PBNDs 2011 (Errata 2013) Standards Inspected ⁵	Deficiencies
Part 1 – Safety	
Emergency Plans	0
Environmental Health and Safety	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 2 – Security	
Admission and Release	2
Custody Classification System	2
Facility Security and Control	9
Funds and Personal Property	0
Population Counts	0
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Special Management Units	0
Staff-Detainee Communication	0
Use of Force and Restraints	1
Sub-Total	14
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
Disability Identification, Assessment, and Accommodation	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 5 – Activities	
Religious Practices	0
Telephone Access	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 6 – Justice	
Grievance Systems	0
Law Libraries and Legal Material	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	14

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

DETAINEE RELATIONS

ODO interviewed 12 detainees, who each voluntarily agreed to participate. None of the detainees made allegations of discrimination, mistreatment, nor abuse. Most detainees reported satisfaction with facility services except for the concern listed below. ODO conducted detainee interviews via video teleconference.

Religious Practices: One detainee stated he requested a Quran and a prayer rug from religious services; however, the facility had not provided either the requested items.

- Action Taken: ODO interviewed the facility's chaplain and compliance officer, and found on November 14, 2020, the detainee requested a prayer rug and an English version of the Quran. The detainee's records indicated the detainee received the prayer rug on the same day as his request; however, there were no English versions of the Quran available. On December 9, 2020, the detainee submitted a request for an additional prayer rug; however, the facility had no additional prayer rugs to distribute. The facility's administrator advised ODO, English printed Qurans were not currently available; however, the facility is working with the detainee and outside Islamic entities to meet the needs of their Muslim detainees. On January 28, 2021, the chaplain spoke with the detainee and gave him the documentation needed to directly correspondence with the Islamic Center of Irving and educated the detainee on his options.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS

SECURITY

ADMISSIONS AND RELEASE (A&R)

ODO reviewed the facility's A&R program and found the facility's admission orientation video did not contain the authority, responsibilities, nor duties of the facility's security officers (**Deficiency A&R-66⁶**).

ODO reviewed the facility's A&R program and found the facility's detainee release procedures have not been reviewed nor approved by ERO Dallas (**Deficiency A&R-78⁷**).

⁶ "At SPCs, CDFs, and dedicated IGSA's, the facility administrator shall produce an orientation video that covers the required topics listed below and shall screen it for every detainee. ... The orientation shall include the following information: ...

3. authority, responsibilities and duties of security officers." See PBNDS 2011, Standard, Admission and Release, Section (V)(F)(3).

⁷ "... ICE/ERO shall approve all facility release procedures." See PBNDS 2011, Standard, Admission and Release, Section (V)(H).

CUSTODY CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM (CCS)

ODO reviewed ■ staff members classification process training records and found ■ out of ■ training records did not contain the proof of completion certificate (**Deficiency CCS-5⁸**).

ODO reviewed ■ staff members detainee in-processing training records and found ■ out of ■ training records did not contain the proof of completion certificate (**Deficiency CCS-6⁹**).

FACILITY SECURITY AND CONTROL (FS&C)

ODO reviewed the facility's master contact roster list within the FS&C program and found the master contact roster did not contain two or more variations of personal contact information for each staff member (**Deficiency FS&C-14¹⁰**).

ODO reviewed the facility's visitor's logbook within the FS&C program and found entries in the visitor's logbook did not identify the person nor the department visited (**Deficiency FS&C-24¹¹**).

ODO reviewed the facility's FS&C program, interviewed both the chief of security (COS) and compliance officer (CO), and found the main gate/front entrance officer did not maintain a separate file for contract employees (Forms G-74), or equivalent, for the facility's contracted employees (**Deficiency FS&C-31¹²**).

ODO reviewed the visitor's logbook within the FS&C program and found the post officer did not record the person nor department visited for every official visitor within the visitor's logbook (**Deficiency FS&C-39¹³**).

⁸ "Each facility administrator shall require that the facility's classification system ensures the following: All facility staff assigned to classification duties shall be adequately trained in the facility's classification process." See ICE PBNDS 2011, Standard, Custody Classification System, Section (V)(A)(2).

⁹ "Each facility administrator shall require that the facility's classification system ensures the following: Each staff member with detainee in-processing responsibilities shall receive on-site training." See ICE PBNDS 2011, Standard, Custody Classification System, Section (V)(A)(2).

¹⁰ "Maintenance of a list of the current home and cell phone numbers of every staff member assigned to the facility; if any staff member is inaccessible by phone, other means of off-duty contact approved by the facility administrator, such as a pager number or e-mail address, may be listed." See ICE PBNDS 2011, Standard, Facility Security and Control, Section (V)(B)(5)(a).

¹¹ "Every entry in the logbook shall identify the person or department visited, date and time of the visitor's arrival, purpose of visit, unusual requests and time of departure." See ICE PBNDS 2011, Standard, Facility Security and Control, Section (V)(C)(1)(b)(2).

¹² "the facility administrator shall establish procedures for tracking the arrivals and departures of contract employees. However, the main gate/front entrance officer shall maintain a separate file of contract employee Forms G-74, or equivalent, laminated, with photograph, issue date, expiration date (if applicable), and the facility administrator's signature." See ICE PBNDS 2011, Standard, Facility Security and Control, Section (V)(C)(1)(b)(5).

¹³ "The post officer shall record every official visitor's arrivals and departures in the visitor logbook, including the person or department visited, date and time of visitor's arrival, purpose of visit, unusual requests and time of departure." See ICE PBNDS 2011, Standard, Facility Security and Control, Section (V)(C)(1)(d).

ODO reviewed the facility's FS&C program, interviewed the CO, and found ICE/ERO employees with frequent business at the facility, but stationed elsewhere, did not complete the Form G-74, or equivalent, for the front-entrance personal data card file (**Deficiency FS&C-40¹⁴**).

ODO reviewed the facility's visitation policy within the FS&C program, interviewed the COS, and found the facility's written procedures did not provide a listing of each facility area where construction visitors were authorized to be present and/or work (**Deficiency FS&C-46¹⁵**).

ODO found the facility did not have a policy nor procedure for regarding what happens when a visitor leaves the facility without surrendering his/her visitor's pass and retrieving their personal identification card in return (**Deficiency FS&C-51¹⁶**).

ODO reviewed the facility's vehicle logbook within the FS&C program and found the post officer did not log the contents of every vehicle entering the facility (**Deficiency FS&C-59¹⁷**).

ODO reviewed the facility's completed inspection forms within the FS&C program and found the facility's staff submitted completed inspection forms to the shift supervisor and not the COS (**Deficiency FS&C-101¹⁸**).

USE OF FORCE AND RESTRAINTS (UOF&R)

ODO reviewed one calculated UOF audio-visual recorded video and found the facility's staff did not remove their helmets during the video introduction nor during the video debriefing (**Deficiency UOF&R-73¹⁹**).

¹⁴ "To save time, all ICE/ERO employees with frequent business at the facility but stationed elsewhere shall complete a G-74 form, or equivalent, for the front-entrance personal data card file." See ICE PBNDS 2011, Standard, Facility Security and Control, Section (V)(C)(1)(d).

¹⁵ "Each facility administrator shall require such persons to identify themselves, consistent with the photo-ID requirements stated above in the standard, and procedures will also provide for a listing of facility areas where construction visitors are authorized to be present and to work." See ICE PBNDS 2011, Standard, Facility Security and Control, Section (V)(C)(1)(f).

¹⁶ "If a visitor leaves the facility without surrendering the visitor pass and retrieving his/her identification card, the post officer shall photocopy the identification card and attach it to a memo to the shift supervisor." See ICE PBNDS 2011, Standard, Facility Security and Control, Section (V)(C)(1)(g)(1-6).

- 1) visitor's name;
- 2) visitor's title (if applicable).
- 3) person or department visited.
- 4) time the pass was issued
- 5) reason for not retrieving the pass from the visitor and/or not returning the identification card;
- 6) other relevant observations.

¹⁷ "The post officer shall log the following information regarding every vehicle: tag number, driver's name, firm represented, purpose of the visit, (e.g., repairs, delivery, etc.), vehicle contents, date, time in, time out and facility employee responsible for the vehicle on-site." See ICE PBNDS 2011, Standard, Facility Security and Control, Section (V)(C)(2)(b).

¹⁸ "... Completed inspection forms, along with the schedule of inspections shall be submitted to the Chief of Security." See ICE PBNDS 2011, Standard, Facility Security and Control, Section (V)(F)(1).

¹⁹ "Calculated use-of-force incidents shall be audio visually-recorded in the following order: Faces of all team members shall briefly appear (with helmets removed and heads uncovered), one at a time, identified by name and title." See ICE PBNDS 2011, Standard, Use of Force and Restraints, Section (V)(I)(2)(b).

CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 21 standards under PBNDS 2011 (Errata 2013) and found the facility in compliance with 17 of those standards. ODO found 14 deficiencies in the remaining four standards. ODO commends facility staff for their responsiveness during this inspection. ODO recommends ERO work with the facility to resolve any deficiencies that remain outstanding in accordance with contractual obligations.

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	FY 2020 (PBNDS 2011[Revised 2016])	FY 2021 (PBNDS 2011[Errata 2013])
Standards Reviewed	18	21
Deficient Standards	3	4
Overall Number of Deficiencies	5	14
Repeat Deficiencies	2	0
Areas of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	0	0