



U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Office of Professional Responsibility
ICE Inspections
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**Office of Detention Oversight
Compliance Inspection
2024-001-236**

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

**Prairieland Detention Facility
Alvarado, Texas**

December 19-21, 2023

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION
of the
PRAIRIELAND DETENTION FACILITY
Alvarado, Texas

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COMPLIANCE INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS



Team Lead	ODO
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Senior Inspections and Compliance Specialist	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 Prairieland Detention Facility (PDF) in Alvarado, Texas, from December 19 to 21, 2023.¹ The facility opened in 2017 and 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 PDF in 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 (2013 Errata).

[REDACTED] A PDF administrator handles daily facility operations and manages [REDACTED] support personnel. LaSalle Corrections provides food services as well as medical care, and Correct Commissary provides commissary services at the facility. The facility does not hold any accreditations from any outside entities. In January 2022, PDF 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 19, 2023)	[REDACTED]
Adult Female Population (as of December 19, 2023)	[REDACTED]

During its last full inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, ODO found 8 deficiencies in the following areas: Correspondence and Other Mail (1); Environmental Health and Safety (3); Medical Care (2); Tool Control (1); and Significant Self-harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention (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 18, 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 PERFORMANCE-BASED NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2011 (2013 ERRATA) MAJOR CATEGORIES

PBNDs 2011 (2013 Errata) 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	0
Searches of Detainees	1
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Special Management Units	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
Personal Hygiene	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
Telephone Access	0
Voluntary Work Program	0

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.

Sub-Total	0
Part 6 - Justice	
Grievance System	0
Law Libraries and Legal Materials	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 7 - Administration and Management	
Detention Files	0
Detainee Transfers	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	1

DETAINEE RELATIONS

ODO interviewed 38 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

SEARCHES OF DETAINEES (SD)

ODO reviewed the facility’s written policy and found it did not include information about leaving the detainees’ housing area, work area, or property in its original order after a search (**Deficiency SD-1⁷**).

CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility’s compliance with 29 standards under PBNDS 2011 (2013 Errata) and found the facility in compliance with 28 of those standards. ODO found one deficiency in the remaining one standard. Since PDF’s last full inspection in December 2022, the facility has trended upward. PDF went from 5 deficient standards and 8 deficiencies in December 2022, to 1 deficient standard and 1 deficiency during this most recent inspection. ODO received the uniform corrective action plan for ODO’s last full inspection of PDF in December 2022, which likely resolved the deficiencies ODO previously identified. ODO did not review the SD standard during the FY 2023 full inspection as it was not an FY 2023 core standard. ODO recommends ERO Dallas continue to work with the facility to resolve any deficiencies that remain outstanding in accordance with contractual obligations.

⁷ “All facilities shall have written policy and procedures consistent with this standard for the following: ...

6. Leaving a searched housing or work area and detainee’s property in its original order, to the extent practicable;”

See ICE PBNDS 2011 (2013 Errata), Standard, Searches of Detainees, Section (V)(A)(6).

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	FY 2023 PBNDS 2011 (2013 Errata)	FY 2024 PBNDS 2011 (2013 Errata)
Standards Reviewed	24	29
Deficient Standards	5	1
Overall Number of Deficiencies	8	1
Priority Component Deficiencies	0	0
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	1	0
Corrective Actions	1	0
Facility Rating	Superior	Superior