

#### 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 Follow-Up Compliance Inspection

## Enforcement and Removal Operations ERO Detroit Field Office

Saint Clair County Jail Port Huron, Michigan

August 30-September 1, 2022

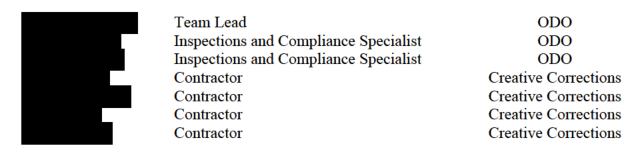
# FOLLOW-UP COMPLIANCE INSPECTION of the SAINT CLAIR COUNTY JAIL

Port Huron, Michigan

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#### FOLLOW-UP COMPLIANCE INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS



#### FACILITY OVERVIEW

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) Office of Detention Oversight (ODO) conducted a follow-up compliance inspection of the Saint Clair County Jail (SCCJ) in Port Huron, Michigan, from August 30 to September 1, 2022. <sup>1</sup> This inspection focused on the standards found deficient during ODO's last inspection of SCCJ from March 14 to 17, 2022. The facility opened in 2005 and is owned and operated by the Saint Clair County Sheriff's Office. The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainees at SCCJ in 2007 under the oversight of ERO's Field Office Director in Detroit (ERO Detroit). The facility operates under the National Detention Standards (NDS) 2019.

ERO has assigned deportation officers to the facility. An SCCJ jail administrator handles daily facility operations and manages support personnel. Aramark provides food and commissary services, and Corizon Correctional Healthcare provides medical care at the facility. The facility does not hold any accreditations from any outside entities.

Capacity and Population Statistics	Quantity
ICE Bed Capacity <sup>2</sup>	
Average ICE Population <sup>3</sup>	
Adult Male Population (as of August 30, 2022)	
Adult Female Population (as of August 30, 2022)	

During its last inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022, ODO found two deficiencies in the following areas: Environmental Health and Safety (1) and Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention (1).

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This facility holds male detainees with security classification levels for periods greater than 72 hours.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Data Source: ERO Facility List as of August 29, 2022.

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#### FOLLOW-UP COMPLIANCE INSPECTION PROCESS

ODO conducts oversight inspections of ICE detention facilities with an average daily population of 10 or more detainees, 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. In FY 2021, to meet congressional requirements, ODO began conducting follow-up inspections at all ICE ERO detention facilities, which ODO inspected earlier in the FY.

While follow-up inspections are intended to focus on previously identified deficiencies, ODO will conduct a complete review of several core standards, which include but are not limited to Medical Care, Hunger Strikes, Suicide Prevention, Food Service, Environmental Health and Safety, Emergency Plans, Use of Force and Restraints/Use of Physical Control Measures and Restraints, Admission and Release, Classification, and Funds and Personal Property. ODO may decide to conduct a second full inspection of a facility in the same FY based on additional information obtained prior to ODO's arrival on-site. Factors ODO will consider when deciding to conduct a second full inspection will include the total number of deficiencies cited during the first inspection, the number of deficient standards found during the first inspection, the completion status of the first inspection's uniform corrective action plan (UCAP), and other information ODO obtains from internal and external sources ahead of the follow-up compliance inspection. Conditions found during the inspection may also lead ODO to assess new areas and identify new deficiencies or areas of concern should facility practices run contrary to ICE standards. Any areas found non-compliant during both inspections are annotated as "Repeat Deficiencies" in this report.

### FINDINGS BY NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2019 MAJOR CATEGORIES

NDS 2019 Standards Inspected <sup>4,5</sup>	Deficiencies
Part 1 - Safety	
Environmental Health and Safety	2
Sub-Total	2
Part 2 - Security	
Admission and Release	1
Custody Classification System	0
Facility Security and Control	0
Funds and Personal Property	0
Facility Security and Control	0
Special Management Unit	0
Staff-Detainee Communication	0
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	1
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	
Recreation	1
Telephone Access	0
Sub-Total	1
Part 6 - Justice	
Grievance System	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	4

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For greater detail on ODO's findings, see the Follow-up Inspection Findings section of this report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 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 11 detainees, who each voluntarily agreed to participate. Most detainees reported satisfaction with facility services except for the concern listed below. None of the detainees made allegations of discrimination, mistreatment, or physical abuse. No other detainees volunteered to interview with ODO.

Food Service: One detainee stated he needed a halal diet because of his Muslim faith.

• Action Taken: On August 31, 2022, ODO notified a facility lieutenant of the detainee's request for a halal diet, and on the same day, a facility sergeant corrected the detainee's dietary status.

Telephone Access: One detainee stated he needed help in contacting a pro bono lawyer.

• Action Taken: On August 31, 2022, ODO notified a facility lieutenant and explained that the detainee needed help in contacting a pro bono lawyer, and on the same day, a facility sergeant provided the detainee with a pro bono lawyer call list and explained how to obtain legal help.

#### FOLLOW-UP COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS

#### **SAFETY**

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (EHS)**

ODO reviewed the facility cleaning and housekeeping policy, toured the facility, and found the following environmental health conditions fell short of the hygiene standards for housing units:

- Discolored sinks with food stains on sink surfaces and discarded hygiene items on counters in the common areas of housing units A, B, and D;
- Significant dust buildup in all exhaust fans and vents in housing units A, B and D;
- Significant dust buildup and peeling paint on the ceilings in all common area restrooms of housing units A, B, and D;
- Holes plugged with discarded toilet paper rolls in a half-wall partition between toilets in housing unit D; and
- Deterioration of drywall material around the door frames of showers in the common areas of housing units A and D (Deficiency EHS-58<sup>6</sup>).

ODO reviewed the facility cleaning and housekeeping policy, toured the facility, and found a lack of cleanliness and maintenance in the following areas:

• Discolored sinks with food stains on sink surfaces and discarded hygiene items on counters in the common areas of housing units A, B, and D;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> "Environmental health conditions will be maintained at a level that meets recognized standards of hygiene." *See* ICE NDS 2019, Standard, Environmental Health and Safety, Section (II)(I).

- Significant dust buildup in all exhaust fans and vents in housing units A, B, D;
- Significant dust buildup and peeling paint on ceilings in all common area restrooms of housing units A, B, D;
- Holes plugged with discarded toilet paper rolls in a half-wall partition between toilets in housing unit D; and
- Deterioration of drywall material around the door frame of showers in housing units A and D common area (**Deficiency EHS-64**<sup>7</sup>).

#### **SECURITY**

#### **ADMISSION AND RELEASE (AR)**

ODO reviewed facility detainee release policy and five released detainee files, interviewed a facility lieutenant and booking officer, and found staff did not complete certain procedures before they released, removed, or transferred a detainee from the facility. Specifically, facility staff did not fingerprint five out of five detainees during the release process (**Deficiency AR-28**8).

#### **USE OF FORCE AND RESTRAINTS (UOFR)**

ODO interviewed a facility lieutenant and found the facility did not possess industry-standard, calculated use of force (CUOF) protective equipment, such as helmet with face shield, jumpsuit, stab resistant vest, or forearm protectors. Despite no CUOF incidents since ODO's last inspection on March 14, 2022, ODO confirmed the facility would conduct a CUOF without protective gear. The lieutenant further stated the special response team of the Saint Clair County Sheriff's Department has protective gear and would handle any CUOF incident at the facility. ODO noted this as an **Area of Concern**.

#### **ACTIVITIES**

#### **RECREATION (R)**

ODO interviewed a facility lieutenant, inspected the recreation area, and found the recreation area was an open space with four cement walls and no fixed equipment (**Deficiency R-8**<sup>9</sup>).

#### **CONCLUSION**

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 17 standards under NDS 2019 and found the facility in compliance with 14 of those standards. ODO found four deficiencies in the remaining three standards. ODO commends facility staff members for their responsiveness during this inspection and recommends ERO work with the facility to resolve any deficiencies that remain outstanding in accordance with contractual obligations. ODO has not received the UCAP

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> "General: Facility cleanliness and sanitation shall be maintained. All surfaces, fixtures, and equipment shall be kept clean and in good repair." *See* ICE NDS 2019, Standard, Environmental Health and Safety, Section (II)(I)(2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> "Staff must complete certain procedures before any detainee's release, removal, or transfer from the facility. Necessary steps include fingerprinting." *See* ICE NDS 2019, Standard, Admission and Release, Section (II)(J).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> "Exercise areas shall offer a variety of fixed and movable equipment." *See* ICE NDS 2019, Standard, Recreation, Section (II)(C)(1).

for ODO's last inspection of SCCJ in March 2022.

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	First FY 2022 (NDS 2019)	Second FY 2022 (NDS 2019)
Standards Reviewed	19	17
Deficient Standards	2	3
Overall Number of Deficiencies	2	4
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	4	1
Corrective Actions	0	0
Facility Rating	Superior	N/A