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Office of Professional Responsibility

Joe Corley Processing Center

Compliance Inspection 2025-001-031

December 17-19, 2024



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

Unclassified



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
Compliance Inspection
2025-001-031**

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

**Joe Corley Processing Center
Conroe, Texas**

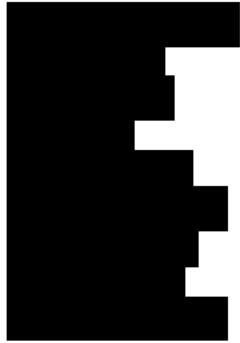
December 17-19, 2024

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION
of the
JOE CORLEY PROCESSING CENTER
Conroe, Texas

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COMPLIANCE INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS



Team Lead	ODO
Senior Inspections and Compliance Specialist	ODO
Senior Inspections and Compliance Specialist	ODO
Inspections and Compliance Specialist	ODO
Inspections and Compliance Specialist	ODO
Contractor	Creative Corrections
Contractor	Creative Corrections
Contractor	Creative Corrections
Contractor	Creative Corrections

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 Joe Corley Processing Center (JCPC) in Conroe, Texas, from December 17 to 19, 2024.¹ The facility opened in 2008 and is owned and operated by GEO Group, Inc. (GEO). The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainees at JCPC in 2008 under the oversight of ERO’s Field Office Director in Houston (ERO Houston). The facility operates under the National Detention Standards (NDS) 2019.



A facility administrator handles daily operations and manages support personnel. GEO provides food services and medical care, and Keefe Commissary provides commissary services at the facility. The facility was accredited by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care in June 2018 and the American Correctional Association in January 2019. In June 2024, JCPC 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	
Average ICE Population ³	
Adult Male Population (as of December 17, 2024)	
Adult Female Population (as of December 17, 2024)	

During its last rated inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, ODO found no deficiencies.

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 16, 2024.

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 NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2019 MAJOR CATEGORIES

NDS 2019 Standards Inspected ^{5,6}	Deficiencies
Part 1 - Safety	
Environmental Health and Safety	0
Transportation by Land	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 2 - Security	
Admission and Release	0
Custody Classification System	0
Funds and Personal Property	0
Hold Rooms in Detention Facilities	0
Use of Force and Restraints	0
Special Management Units	1
Staff-Detainee Communication	0
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	1
Part 3 - Order	
Disciplinary System	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 4 - Care	
Food Service	0
Medical Care	0
Significant Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention	0
Terminal Illness and Death	0
Disability Identification, Assessment, and Accommodation	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 5 - Activities	
Recreation	0
Visitation	0
Sub-Total	0
Part 6 - Justice	
Detainee Handbook	0
Grievance System	0
Legal Rights Group Presentations	0
Sub-Total	0
Total Deficiencies	1

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.

DETAINEE RELATIONS

ODO interviewed 46 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 concern listed below.

Religious Practices: One detainee stated he's uncomfortable speaking Spanish and practicing his religion in the housing unit, because the other detainees verbally abused him and threw deodorant at him while he prayed aloud in Spanish on December 10, 2024.

- Action Taken: ODO interviewed a DO and found the detainee submitted a request on December 18, 2024, stating he did not feel comfortable in his housing unit and requested reassignment. On the same day, facility staff interviewed the detainee and moved him to another housing unit. ODO spoke with the detainee and confirmed his satisfaction.

COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS

SECURITY

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT UNITS (SMU)

ODO reviewed 30-minute electronic observation logs and found in 33 instances, facility staff observed detainees in the SMU between 31 and 39 minutes after the last observation (**Deficiency SMU-84⁷**). **This is a priority component.**

CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 21 standards under NDS 2019 and found the facility in compliance with 20 of those standards. ODO found one deficiency in the remaining standard. Since JCPC's last full inspection in December 2023, the facility's compliance with NDS 2019 has remained consistent. JCPC went from no deficiencies in December 2023 to 1 deficient standard and 1 deficiency during this compliance inspection. ODO did not require uniform corrective action plan for JCPC's last inspection in December 2023. ODO recommends ERO Houston work with the facility to resolve any deficiencies in accordance with contractual obligations

⁷ "SMU staff shall observe and log observations at least every 30 minutes on an irregular schedule." See ICE NDS 2019, Standard, Special Management Units, Section (II)(K).

Compliance Inspection Results Compared	FY 2024 Full Inspection (NDS 2019)	FY 2025 Full Inspection (NDS 2019)
Standards Reviewed	24	21
Deficient Standards	0	1
Overall Number of Deficiencies	0	1
Priority Component Deficiencies	0	1
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	0	0
Facility Rating	Superior. ⁸	Good

⁸ ODO revised its rating system at the end of FY 2023, and beginning in FY 2024, facilities rated as “Superior” will have no or very minimal deficiencies and will have no repeat or priority component deficiencies.



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