

# Office of Professional Responsibility

**Karnes County  
Immigration Processing Center  
Inspection 2024-002-438**

**September 17–19, 2024**



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement



**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  
2024-002-438**

**Enforcement and Removal Operations  
ERO San Antonio Field Office**

**Karnes County Immigration Processing Center  
Karnes City, Texas**

**September 17-19, 2024**

**FOLLOW-UP COMPLIANCE INSPECTION**  
**of the**  
**KARNES COUNTY IMMIGRATION PROCESSING CENTER**  
Karnes City, Texas

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**FACILITY OVERVIEW .....4**

**FOLLOW-UP COMPLIANCE INSPECTION PROCESS.....5**

**FINDINGS BY PERFORMANCE-BASED NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS  
2011 (REVISED 2016) MAJOR CATEGORIES.....6**

**DETAINEE RELATIONS .....7**

**FOLLOW-UP COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS.....7**

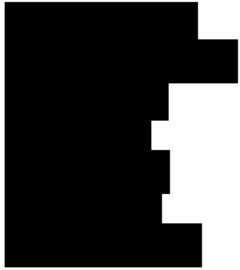
**SECURITY .....7**

**FACILITY SECURITY AND CONTROL .....7**

**POST ORDERS .....7**

**CONCLUSION .....8**

## **FOLLOW-UP COMPLIANCE INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS**



Team Lead	ODO
Senior Inspections and Compliance Specialist	ODO
Senior 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 follow-up compliance inspection of the Karnes County Immigration Processing Center (KCIPC) in Karnes City, Texas, from September 17 to 19, 2024.<sup>1</sup> This inspection focused on the standards found deficient during ODO’s last inspection of KCIPC from March 19 to 21, 2024. The facility opened in 2012 and is owned and operated by The GEO Group, Inc (GEO). The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainees at KCIPC in 2012 under the oversight of ERO’s Field Office Director in San Antonio (ERO San Antonio). The facility operates under the Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) 2011 (Revised 2016).

[REDACTED] A facility administrator (FA) handles daily facility operations and manages [REDACTED] support personnel. GEO provides food services and medical care, and Keefe Commissary provides commissary services at the facility. KCIPC was accredited by the American Correctional Association in August 2024. In December 2022, the facility 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 <sup>2</sup>	[REDACTED]
Average ICE Population <sup>3</sup>	[REDACTED]
Adult Male Population (as of September 17, 2024)	[REDACTED]
Adult Female Population (as of September 17, 2024)	[REDACTED]
Transgender Population (as of September 17, 2024)	[REDACTED]

During its last rated inspection, in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, ODO found 1 deficiency in the Post Orders standard.

<sup>1</sup> This facility holds male and female detainees with low and medium-low security classification levels for periods greater than 72 hours.

<sup>2</sup> Data Source: ERO Custody Management Division Authorized Facility List as of September 16, 2024.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

## FOLLOW-UP COMPLIANCE INSPECTION PROCESS

ODO conducts biannual oversight inspections of ICE detention facilities with an average daily population (ADP) of 10 or more detainees, and where detainees are housed for longer than 72-hours, to assess compliance with ICE National Detention Standards. In FY 2021, to meet congressional requirements, ODO began conducting follow-up inspections at all over-72-hour ICE detention facilities with an ADP of 10 or more detainees that ODO conducted a full inspection of earlier in the FY. Follow-up inspections focus on facility compliance with detention standards that directly affect detainee life, health, safety, and/or well-being, and other standards ODO found deficient during the previous rated inspection to assess the facility’s corrective actions taken to address those previously cited deficiencies.<sup>4</sup>

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.

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 the full and follow-up inspection are annotated as “Repeat Deficiencies” in this report.

---

<sup>4</sup> ODO reviews the facility’s compliance with selected standards in their entirety.

## FINDINGS BY PERFORMANCE-BASED NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2011 (REVISED 2016) MAJOR CATEGORIES

PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016) Standards Inspected <sup>5,6</sup>	Deficiencies
<b>Part 1 - Safety</b>	
Emergency Plans	0
Environmental Health and Safety	0
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Part 2 - Security</b>	
Admission and Release	0
Custody Classification System	0
Facility Security and Control	1
Funds and Personal Property	0
Hold Rooms in Detention Facilities	0
Post Orders	4
Searches of Detainees	0
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Use of Force and Restraints	0
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Part 4 - Care</b>	
Food Service	0
Hunger Strikes	0
Medical Care	0
Medical Care (Women)	0
Significant Self-harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention	0
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Deficiencies</b>	<b>5</b>

<sup>5</sup> For greater detail on ODO's findings, see the *Follow-up Compliance Inspection Findings* section of this report.

<sup>6</sup> 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 27 detainees, who each voluntarily agreed to participate. None of the detainees made allegations of discrimination or mistreatment, or abuse. All detainees reported satisfaction with facility services.

## FOLLOW-UP COMPLIANCE INSPECTION FINDINGS

### SECURITY

#### FACILITY SECURITY AND CONTROL (FSC)

ODO toured 3 detainee housing units and reviewed the housing unit logbooks and found the 3<sup>rd</sup> shift supervisor did not sign the Rainforest housing unit logbook from September 15 to 17, 2024 (**Deficiency FSC-75<sup>7</sup>**).

#### POST ORDERS (PO)

ODO reviewed the POs for the laundry officer and the locksmith armory officer and found neither set of POs stated the duty hours for the respective post (**Deficiency PO-10<sup>8</sup>**).

ODO reviewed 29 POs and found the facility administrator (FA) did not sign the facility's general PO (**Deficiency PO-11<sup>9</sup>**).

ODO reviewed the medical observation officer PO and found the PO contained a memo without the FA's initials nor date indicating a change to the PO (**Deficiency PO-13<sup>10</sup>**).

ODO toured 3 detainee housing units and reviewed the housing unit logbooks and found the 3<sup>rd</sup> shift supervisor did not sign the Rainforest housing unit logbook from September 15 to 17, 2024 (**Deficiency PO-21<sup>11</sup>**).

---

<sup>7</sup> "The shift supervisor shall visit each housing area and initial the log on each shift at least once per tour." See ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Facility Security and Control, Section (V)(D)(1).

<sup>8</sup> "The chief security officer shall supervise the preparation of all post orders, which shall: ...  
2. specifically state the duty hours for each post."

See ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Post Orders, Section (V)(C)(2).

<sup>9</sup> "The facility administrator (or designee) shall: ...

1. approve, sign and date each Post Order on the last page of each section;"

See ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Post Orders, Section (V)(C)(1).

<sup>10</sup> "The chief security officer shall supervise the preparation of all post orders, which shall: ...

3. initial and date any subsequent changes to the Post Order.

See ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Post Orders, Section (V)(C)(3).

<sup>11</sup> "The shift supervisor shall visit each housing area and initial the log on each shift." See ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Post Orders, Section (V)(E).



## CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 16 standards under PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016) and found the facility in compliance with 14 of those standards. ODO found five deficiencies in the remaining two standards. Since the last rated inspection in March 2024, the facility has trended downward. KCIPC went from 1 deficient standard and 1 deficiency in March 2024 to 2 deficient standards and 5 deficiencies during this most recent inspection. KCIPC completed its UCAP for its rated inspection in May 2024, which likely resolved the deficiency ODO previously cited. ODO recommends ERO San Antonio work with the facility to resolve the deficiencies that remain outstanding in accordance with contractual obligations.

<b>Compliance Inspection Results Compared</b>	<b>FY 2024 Full Inspection (PBNDS 2011) (Revised 2016)</b>	<b>FY 2024 Follow-Up Inspection (PBNDS 2011) (Revised 2016)</b>
Standards Reviewed	24	16
Deficient Standards	1	2
Overall Number of Deficiencies	1	5
Priority Component Deficiencies	0	0
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	0	0
Facility Rating	Superior	N/A



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

## Office of Professional Responsibility

