



Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

Summary of CRCL's Recommendations and ICE's Response *Caroline Detention Facility*

On May 12, 2023, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) responded to an Expert Recommendation Memorandum issued in December 2022 by the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) that followed an onsite investigation at the Caroline Detention Facility (CDF). ICE concurred with five recommendations, partially concurred with seven, and non-concurred with seven.

Background

Between May 2021 and February 2022, CRCL opened nine complaints involving noncitizens in ICE custody at CDF. The allegations raised concerns related to retaliation, medical care, and inadequate food. As a result of these complaints, CRCL conducted a multidisciplinary onsite investigation at CDF in June 2022 to review these allegations and any additional issues raising civil rights and civil liberties concerns.

Findings and Recommendations

In September 2022, CRCL issued ICE an Expert Recommendation Memorandum based on its investigation conducted with the assistance of contract subject matter experts. The memo included 19 recommendations in the areas of conditions of detention, medical care, mental health care, and environmental health and safety. The following highlights the top three findings and actions that ICE agreed to take as a result of CRCL's recommendations.

Staff-Detainee Communication

CRCL identified that some facility staff were dismissive and used disrespectful language towards noncitizens. ICE agreed to investigate and subsequently discipline a staff member after finding concerning behavior. In addition, ICE ensured that all facility staff received training specific to respectfully treating noncitizens in custody.

Religious Practices

CRCL found that the facility didn't have a chaplain on staff for almost a year, making it difficult for the facility to consistently host religious services. ICE agreed and hired a chaplain for the facility.

Facility Security and Control

CRCL found that the facility's low and medium security housing units did not have cameras, making it difficult to effectively monitor the two housing units and raising safety and security concerns. ICE agreed and installed new cameras in both units in January 2023.

CRCL provides the public with documents related to complaint investigations. After it is prepared and reviewed, CRCL will post a redacted version of this Expert Recommendation Memorandum on our [website](#) that will contain additional information about the complaint investigation and CRCL's findings and recommendations.

May 19, 2023