



Summary of CRCL’s Recommendations and ICE’s Response *Spot Check at the Immigration Centers of America – Farmville*

On July 23, 2024, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) responded to a Key Civil Rights Findings and Recommendation Memorandum issued in March 2024 by the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) that followed an onsite spot check investigation at the Immigration Centers of America - Farmville (Farmville). ICE concurred with 21 recommendations, partially concurred with four, and non-concurred with eight.

Background

Between August and September 2023, CRCL opened eight complaints involving noncitizens in ICE custody at Farmville. The allegations raised concerns related to inappropriate use of force, voyeurism and lack of privacy, language access issues, and lack of responsiveness with the grievance system. As a result of these complaints, CRCL conducted an onsite spot check investigation at Farmville in November 2023 to examine the facility’s operations and assess the issues raised in the complaints.

Findings and Recommendations

On March 25, 2024, CRCL issued ICE a Key Civil Rights Findings and Recommendation Memorandum based on its investigation conducted with the assistance of a contract subject matter expert. The memorandum included 33 recommendations related to use of force, language access and staff communication, grievances, environmental health and safety, and sexual abuse prevention and detection. The following highlights the top three findings and actions that ICE agreed to take as a result of CRCL’s recommendations.

Use of Force After Action Review Training

CRCL found that the Farmville’s use of force and use of restraints After Action Review (AAR) reports did not identify deficiencies that CRCL found during its review of the AAR reports. ICE agreed to provide Farmville with biannual AAR training for several different types of use of force incidents.

Grievances

CRCL found that Farmville was not providing decisions in response to grievances. CRCL also found that Farmville was not keeping noncitizens informed when a grievance requires additional time to resolve. ICE agreed to modify the practice of responding to grievances to clearly articulate the outcome. In instances where a grievance resolution requires an investigation or a delay in resolution, ICE agreed to inform the noncitizen an estimated timeframe for resolution and to respond with the outcome in writing when the decision is complete.

Sexual Abuse Prevention Risk Screening Form

CRCL found that Farmville’s sexual abuse prevention risk screening form was not generating accurate information about a noncitizen’s risk of victimization or risk of abusiveness. CRCL also found that the form did not incorporate known information from prior detainments to determine risk of abusiveness. ICE agreed to update the form to include information about prior detainments and to weigh certain factors (*e.g.*, noncitizen’s identification as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, and gender nonconforming) more heavily than other factors to ensure that the form produces accurate results based on documented research about factors that increase risk of victimization.

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.