Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties



Summary of CRCL's Recommendations and ICE's Response Broward Transitional Center

On June 18, 2024, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) responded to a Key Civil Rights Findings and Recommendations Memorandum issued in April 2024, by the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) that followed a spot check investigation at the Broward Transitional Center (Broward). ICE concurred with one recommendation, partially concurred with two, and non-concurred with five.

Background

In May 2023, CRCL opened a complaint investigation related to three disturbances involving noncitizens at Broward on April 17, April 18, and June 4, 2023. The disturbances raised concerns related to racial tension among the detained population. As a result of this complaint investigation, CRCL conducted a spot check investigation at Broward in June 2023 to examine the facility's operations and assess potential concerns related to facility conditions and safety.

Findings and Recommendations

On April 4, 2024, CRCL issued ICE a Key Civil Rights Findings and Recommendations Memorandum based on its investigation conducted with the assistance of a contract subject matter expert specializing in conditions of detention. The memo included eight recommendations in that general area. The following highlights the top three findings and actions that ICE agreed to take as a result of CRCL's recommendations.

Facility Security, Control, and Safety

CRCL recommended that ICE and Broward conduct an assessment to identify contributing factors that led to the three disturbances at the facility, as well as to take corrective actions. ICE agreed to work on enhancing physical security capabilities to strengthen security and to identify trends that could lead to a major disturbance within the detained population.

Failure to Respond to Grievances

CRCL found that noncitizens at Broward submitted requests to ICE reporting safety concerns and staff mistreatment which were not adequately addressed. ICE agreed to review ICE responses to noncitizen requests to ensure compliance with the detention standards.

Reporting Deficiencies

CRCL found that Broward failed to adequately describe the disturbances in the after-action reporting process. ICE acknowledged that the two disturbances were reported as one incident and should have been split into separate incident reports. ICE agreed to work towards refining the reporting process by ensuring the After-Action Reports have sufficient details.

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 <u>website</u> that will contain additional information about the complaint investigation and CRCL's findings and recommendations.

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