



Summary of CRCL's Recommendations and ICE's Response *Clay County Jail*

On September 3, 2024, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) responded to an Onsite Recommendation Memorandum issued in May 2024 by the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) that followed an onsite investigation at the Clay County Jail (Clay County). ICE concurred with 32 recommendations, partially concurred with three, and non-concurred with one.

Background

Between October 2022 and February 2023, CRCL received numerous allegations related to noncitizens in ICE custody at Clay County and opened three representative complaint investigations. The complaints raised concerns related to medical care, conditions of detention, and environmental health and safety. As a result of these complaints, CRCL conducted a multidisciplinary investigation at Clay County in July 2023 to examine the facility's operations and assess issues raising civil rights and civil liberties concerns.

Findings and Recommendations

On May 7, 2024, CRCL issued ICE an Onsite Recommendations Memorandum based on its investigation conducted with the assistance of three contract subject matter experts. The memo included 36 recommendations in the general areas of conditions of detention, medical 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.

Inadequate Medical and Mental Health Staffing

CRCL found that Clay County does not have adequate medical and mental health staff to ensure appropriate healthcare coverage at all times. ICE agreed and has expanded the nursing staff by adding seven nurses and two medical technicians.

Language Access

CRCL found noncitizens at Clay County who are Limited English Proficient (LEP) do not receive a handbook in the noncitizen's preferred language. ICE agreed and has implemented a new kiosk system that allows for the handbook to be digitally available in approximately 115 languages. Additionally, ICE agreed to document the use of oral interpretation or the use of the language line in noncitizens' detention files.

Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention

CRCL found cameras in the control room did not provide adequate privacy, particularly in the female housing units. Additionally, the facility had signage that indicated anonymous calls to the Sexual Assault Hotline were monitored. ICE agreed to add video mask privacy boxes to all necessary facility cameras to provide additional privacy protections. Additionally, the facility corrected signage to indicate that calls to the Sexual Assault Hotline are not monitored.

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.