



Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

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

On June 5, 2023, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) responded to an Expert Recommendation Memorandum issued in September 2022 by the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) that followed an onsite investigation at the Torrance County Detention Facility (Torrance). ICE concurred with 21 recommendations, partially concurred with one, and non-concurred with 20.

Background

Between July and December 2021, CRCL opened 14 complaint investigations involving noncitizens in ICE custody at Torrance. The allegations raised concerns related to conditions of detention, environmental health and safety, medical, and mental health. As a result of these complaints, CRCL conducted a multidisciplinary investigation at Torrance in June 2022 to examine the facility's operations and assess issues raising civil rights and civil liberties concerns.

Findings and Recommendations

On September 26, 2022, CRCL issued ICE an Expert Recommendation Memorandum based on its investigation conducted with the assistance of contract subject matter experts. The memo included 42 recommendations in the general 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.

Language Access for Mental Health Care Services

CRCL found that many of the noncitizens who have limited English proficiency were unaware of how to request medical and mental health services via the tablet. ICE addressed this concern immediately and conducted a town hall in all housing units to discuss tablet capabilities, including accessing medical and mental health services.

Medical Evaluations

CRCL found noncitizens with abnormal vital signs, such as high blood pressure, are not rechecked or sent to higher level of care. ICE agreed and conducted a training with medical staff to set parameters and plans based on noncitizens' needs when housed in medical, including determining when to send a noncitizen out for a higher level of care or to notify the medical provider.

Suicide Prevention

CRCL determined that the facility did not have a cut down tool to respond to suicide attempts accessible in the segregation unit. As an immediate response is critical for suicide attempts and the preservation of life, ICE agreed and placed a cut down tool in the segregation unit.

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.

February 8, 2024