Office of Professional Responsibility

Mesa Verde ICE Processing Center

Inspection 2026-001-170

August 18-20, 2026

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

INSPECTION
of the
MESA VERDE ICE PROCESSING CENTER
Bakersfield, California

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FACILITY OVERVIEW

The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) Office of Detention Oversight (ODO) conducted an inspection of the Mesa Verde ICE Processing Center (MVIPC) in Bakersfield, California, from August 18 to 20, 2026..[1] The facility opened in 2015 and is owned and operated by the GEO Group, Inc. The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainees at MVIPC in 1997 under the oversight of ERO's Field Office Director in San Francisco (ERO San Francisco). The facility is a dedicated ICE detention facility and operates under Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) 2011 (Revised 2016).

ERO San Francisco deportation officers are not assigned full-time to the facility but conduct weekly scheduled visits on (b)(7)(e) from (b)(7)(e) to (b)(7)(e) A facility administrator handles daily facility operations and manages (b)(7)(e) support personnel. GEO provides food services and medical care, and Union Supply Group provides commissary services at the facility. The facility was accredited by the American Correctional Association in January 2023 and National Commission on Correctional Health Care in June 2024. In March 2024, MVIPC was audited for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) and was found DHS PREA compliant.

Capacity and Population Statistics	Quantity
ICE Bed Capacity.[2]	(b)(7)(e)
Average ICE Population[3]	(b)(7)(e)
Adult Male Population (as of August 18, 2026)	(b)(7)(e)
Adult Female Population (as of August 18, 2026)	N/A

During its last inspection in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, ODO found 1 deficiency: Hold Rooms in Detention Facilities (1).

[1] This facility holds male detainees with low, medium-low, medium-high, and high security classification levels for periods greater than 72 hours.
[2] Data Source: ERO Custody Management Division Authorized Facility List as of August 13, 2026.
[3] *Ibid.*

INSPECTION PROCESS

ODO conducts the following annual and biennial oversight inspections of ICE detention facilities to assess and rate each facility's compliance with their contractually obligated detention standards as noted in the Facility Overview section above.

- Dedicated facility: ODO conducts annual on-site inspections of dedicated inter-governmental service agreement (IGSA) facilities, contract detention facilities (CDF), family residential centers, and service processing centers.

- Non-dedicated IGSA facility:
  - For facilities with an average daily population (ADP) of 50 or more, ODO conducts biennial on-site inspections.
  - For facilities with an ADP of 50 or less,
    - If the facility has not previously had a rated ODO inspection, then ODO conducts an initial on-site inspection, and
    - If the facility has had an ODO inspection, then the facility completes a biennial ODO-assisted self-inspection process (OASIP).

- U.S. Marshal Service (USMS): USMS CDF and intergovernmental agreement facilities complete biennial OASIPs.

In FY 2025, ODO implemented OASIPs, which replaced the annual Special Review inspections ODO conducted at most low ADP and/or short-term use facilities. This new inspection framework is more reflective of the actual operation demand of facilities with a low ADP and/or short-term use. OASIP inspections focus on facility compliance with detention standard requirements that directly affect detainee life, health, safety, and/or well-being. Facilities have 30 calendar days to complete the OASIP inspection and ODO staff will go on-site for 1 day towards the end of the 30-day inspection window to observe facility conditions, interview ICE detainees, and spot-check the facility's reported findings.[4]

ODO defines a "deficiency" as any violation of detention standards, policies, or operational procedures, as applicable. ODO highlights instances when the facility resolves deficiencies prior to the completion of the ODO inspection as corrective actions. Where applicable, these corrective actions are annotated with a "C" in the *Inspection Findings* section of the report.

Upon completion of each inspection, ODO conducts a closeout briefing with facility and local ERO officials to discuss preliminary findings. ODO shares a summary of these findings with ERO management officials. Thereafter, ODO provides ICE leadership with a final report to: (i) assist ERO in developing and initiating a uniform corrective action plan (UCAP); and (ii) provide senior executives with an independent assessment of facility operations. ODO's findings inform ICE executive management in its decision-making to better allocate resources across the agency's entire detention inventory.

[4] When ODO conducts on-site inspections for non-OASIP facilities, the facility is notified 4 weeks before the inspection and ODO is on-site for 2-3 business days conducting the inspection.

FINDINGS BY PERFORMANCE-BASED NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2011 (REVISED 2016) MAJOR CATEGORIES

PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016) Standards Inspected[5]	Deficiencies
Part 1 - Safety	
Emergency Plans	0
Environmental Health and Safety	0
Sub-Total	**0**
Part 2 - Security	
Admission and Release	0
Custody Classification System	0
Facility Security and Control	0
Funds and Personal Property	0
Population Counts	0
Post Orders	0
Searches of Detainees	1
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Special Management Units	0
Staff-Detainee Communication	0
Use of Force and Restraints	1
Sub-Total	**2**
Part 4 - Care	
Food Service	0
Hunger Strikes	0
Medical Care	2
Medical Care (Women)	0
Personal Hygiene	0
Significant Self-harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention	0
Sub-Total	**2**
Part 5 - Activities	
Correspondence and Other Mail	0
Trips for Non-Medical Emergencies	0
Marriage Requests	0
Religious Practices	0
Telephone Access	3
Voluntary Work Program	0
Sub-Total	**3**
Part 6 - Justice	
Grievance System	0

[5] For greater detail on ODO's findings, see the *Compliance Inspection Findings* section of this report.

Law Libraries and Legal Materials	0
Sub-Total	**0**
Part 7 - Administration and Management	
Detention Files	0
Detainee Transfers	0
Sub-Total	**0**
Total Deficiencies	**7**

DETAINEE RELATIONS

ODO interviewed 25 detainees, who each voluntarily agreed to participate. None of the detainees made allegations of discrimination, mistreatment, or abuse. Most detainees reported satisfaction with facility services except for the concern listed below.

Telephone Access: One detainee stated the Mexican consulate number did not connect when he tried to call it.

- Action Taken: On August 19, 2026, ODO reviewed the posted consulate lists in all [redacted] housing units and tested 3 consulate numbers (Brazil, Haiti, and Mexico) in each housing unit and found the 3 consulate numbers were invalid. On the same date, ODO notified the facility compliance manager and contacted ERO San Francisco who provided an updated list consulate list which listed new numbers for the Brazil, Haitian, and Mexican consulates. This led to multiple deficiencies which are listed in the *Telephone Access* section of the report below.

  On August 19, 2026, the facility posted the updated consulate list in each housing unit and ODO re-tested the phone numbers on the consulate list and found the Hattian consulate number still did not connect to the consulate. On the same date, ERO San Francisco put in a service ticket to Talton Communications (TC) to update the Haitian consulate speed dial number. On August 20, 2026, ODO informed the detainee TC had updated the Mexican consulate number and the detainee confirmed he was able to contact the consulate. On September 2, 2026, ERO San Francisco confirmed TC had updated the Haitian consulate number, and the number was working properly.

INSPECTION FINDINGS

SECURITY

SEARCHES OF DETAINEES (SD)

ODO reviewed 25 (b)(7)(e) search logs and found 8 out of 25 logs were incomplete, with blank "items found" sections and no signatures from the officer conducting the search or the

supervisor on duty. The incomplete logs had dates ranging from February 13 through May 21, 2026, **(Deficiency SD-20.[6])**.

USE OF FORCE AND RESTRAINTS (UOFR)

ODO interviewed the chief of security, reviewed 25 staff training records and the daily watch staffing roster for August 18-19, 2026, and found the facility did not (b)(7)(e) (b)(7)(e) (b)(7)(e) (b)(7)(e) **(Deficiency UOFR-75.[7])**.

CARE

MEDICAL CARE (MC)

ODO reviewed 30 detainee medical records and found in 2 out of 30 records; a facility health care provider did not complete comprehensive health assessments within 14 days of arrival. Instead, staff completed the assessments between 26 and 30 days after the detainees' respective arrivals **(Deficiency MC-137.[8])**. **This is a priority component**.

ODO reviewed 30 detainee medical records and found in 6 out of 30 records; the clinical medical authority did not review comprehensive health assessments to assess the priority for treatment **(Deficiency MC-140.[9])**.

ACTIVITIES

TELEPHONE ACCESS (TA)

ODO reviewed the facility's telephone and consulate lists, tested the telephone and consulate list numbers, and found the following deficiencies:

[6] "The chief of security shall maintain documentation of search-team inspections." *See* ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Searches of Detainees, Section (V)(C).

[7] "When a detainee must be forcibly moved and/or restrained during a calculated use of force, staff shall use the use-of-force team technique to prevent or diminish injury to staff and detainees and exposure to communicable disease. The technique usually involves five or more trained staff members…Staff shall be trained in the use-of-force team technique in sufficient numbers for teams to be quickly convened on all shifts in different locations throughout the facility. To use staff resources most effectively." *See* ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Use of Force and Restraints, Section (V)(I)(3)(a).

[8] "Each facility's health care provider shall conduct a comprehensive health assessment, including a physical examination and mental health screening, on each detainee within 14 days of the detainee's arrival unless more immediate attention is required due to an acute or identifiable chronic condition." *See* ICE PBNDS 2011(Revised 2016), Standard, Medical Care, Section (V)(M).

[9] "The CMA shall be responsible for review of all comprehensive health assessments to assess the priority for treatment." *See* ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Medical Care, Section (V)(M).

- The facility did not post updated telephone nor consulate lists in the detainee housing units. Specifically, ODO tested the Brazil, Haiti, and Mexican consulate numbers and found the numbers were invalid **(Deficiency TA-26.[10] and Deficiency TA-37.[11])**; and
- The field office director did not keep all consulate information current and provided to the facility **(Deficiency TA-36.[12])**.

Corrective Action: Prior to the conclusion of the inspection the facility initiated corrective action by posting the updated consulate list in each housing unit on August 19, 2026 **(C-1).**

CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 29 standards under PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016) and found the facility in compliance with 25 of those standards. ODO found seven deficiencies in four standards. Since MVIPC's last inspection in April 2025, the facility's compliance with PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016) has trended downward. MVIPC went from 1 deficient standard and 1 deficiency in April 2025 to 4 deficient standards and 7 deficiencies during this most recent inspection. ODO received MVIPC's completed UCAP for its last inspection in May 2026, which likely resolved the previous deficiency ODO cited. ODO recommends ERO San Francisco continue to work with the facility to resolve the deficiencies that remain outstanding in accordance with contractual obligations.

Inspection Results Compared	FY 2025 PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016)	FY 2026 PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016)
Standards Reviewed	28	29
Deficient Standards	1	4
Overall Number of Deficiencies	1	7
Priority Component Deficiencies	0	1
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	0	0
Corrective Actions	0	1
Facility Rating	Superior	Good

[10] "Updated telephone and consulate lists shall be posted in detainee housing units." *See* ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Telephone Access, Section (V)(C).
[11] "Updated lists need to be posted in the detainee housing units." *See* ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Telephone Access, Section (V)(E).
[12] "The field office director shall ensure that all information is kept current and is provided to each facility." *See* ICE PBNDS 2011 (Revised 2016), Standard, Telephone Access, Section (V)(E).

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