Office of Professional Responsibility

Seneca County Jail

Inspection 2026-001-165

August 11-13, 2026

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

INSPECTION
of the
SENECA COUNTY JAIL
Tiffin, Ohio

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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 Seneca County Jail (SCJ) in Tiffin, Ohio, from August 11 to 13, 2026.[1] The facility opened in 1994 and is owned by the county and operated by the Seneca County Sheriff's Office. The ICE Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) began housing detainees at SCJ in 1996 under the oversight of ERO's Field Office Director in Detroit (ERO Detroit). The facility is a non-dedicated ICE detention facility and operates under National Detention Standards (NDS) 2025.[2]

ERO Detroit deportation officers are assigned full-time to the facility and conduct weekly scheduled visits Sunday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Sheriff handles daily facility operations and manages [redacted] support personnel. Seneca County provides both food services and medical care, and Stellar Services provides commissary services at the facility. The facility does not hold any accreditations from any outside entities.

Capacity and Population Statistics	Quantity
ICE Bed Capacity[3]	[redacted]
Average ICE Population[4]	[redacted]
Adult Male Population (as of August 11, 2026)	[redacted]
Adult Female Population (as of August 11, 2026)	[redacted]

During its last inspection in Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, ODO found 5 deficiencies in the following areas: Environmental Health and Safety (2); Food Service (1); Medical Care (1); and Use of Force and Restraints (1).

[1] This facility holds male and female detainees with low, medium-low and medium high security classification levels for periods greater than 72 hours.
[2] On July 30, 2026, ODO received the SCJ contract from OAQ, which indicated that SCJ was contracted under NDS 2025. However, SCJ later signed a contract modification, also dated July 30, 2026, changing the applicable standards to NDS 2026.[3] Data Source: ERO Custody Management Division Authorized Facility List as of August 6, 2026.
[3] Data Source: ERO Custody Management Division Authorized Facility List as of August 6, 2026.
[4] *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. Marshals 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.[5]

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.

[5] 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 NATIONAL DETENTION STANDARDS 2025 MAJOR CATEGORIES

NDS 2025 Standards Inspected[6]	Deficiencies
Part 1 - Safety	
Environmental Health and Safety	2
Transportation by Land	0
Sub-Total	**2**
Part 2 - Security	
Admission and Release	0
Custody Classification System	0
Facility Security and Control	0
Funds and Personal Property	0
Hold Rooms in Detention Facilities	0
Post Orders	0
Searches of Detainees	0
Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention	0
Special Management Units	0
Staff-Detainee Communication	0
Use of Force and Restraints	1
Sub-Total	**1**
Part 3 - Order	
Disciplinary System	0
Sub-Total	**0**
Part 4 - Care	
Disability Identification, Assessment, and Accommodation	0
Food Service	0
Hunger Strikes	0
Medical Care	0
Personal Hygiene	0
Significant Self-harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention	0
Terminal Illness and Death	0
Sub-Total	**0**
Part 5 - Activities	
Correspondence and Other Mail	0
Recreation	0
Religious Practices	0
Telephone Access	0
Visitation	0
Voluntary Work Program	0

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

Sub-Total	**0**
Part 6 - Justice	
Detainee Handbook	0
Grievance System	0
Law Libraries and Legal Material	0
Legal Rights Group Presentations	0
Sub-Total	**0**
Part 7 - Administration and Management	
Detention Files	0
Detainee Transfers	0
Sub-Total	**0**
Total Deficiencies	**3**

DETAINEE RELATIONS

ODO interviewed 16 of 30 detainees, who each voluntarily agreed to participate. The remaining 14 detainees declined to be interviewed and instead sought information from ICE regarding their case status. None of the detainees made allegations of discrimination, mistreatment, or abuse. All detainees reported satisfaction with facility services.

INSPECTION FINDINGS

SAFETY

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (EHS)

ODO interviewed a security sergeant, a correctional officer; reviewed facility policy, toured the facility; and observed four facility detainee shower areas in housing units (b)(7)(e) and found in four out of four facility detainee shower areas rust on the walls, ceilings, floors, and fixtures; peeling paint on floors and walls; and soap residue on shower fixtures **(Deficiency EHS-58.[7])**.

ODO observed 11 facility showers did not maintain its shower areas in a clean, sanitary condition or in good repair. Specifically, ODO observed rust on the walls, ceilings, floors, and fixtures; peeling paint on the floors and walls; and soap scum on the shower fixtures in all 11 showers inspected, including 2 of 2 showers in Unit [redacted], 1 of 1 shower in Unit [redacted] 1 of 1 shower in Unit [redacted], 6 of 6 showers in Unit [redacted], and 1 of 1 shower in the Receiving and Discharge area **(Deficiency EHS-64.[8])**.

[7] "Environmental health conditions will be maintained at a level that meets recognized standards of hygiene." *See* ICE NDS 2025, Standard, Environmental Health and Safety, Section (II)(I).

[8] "Environmental health conditions will be maintained at a level that meets recognized standards of hygiene." *See* ICE NDS 2025, Standard, Environmental Health and Safety, Section (II)(I)(2).

SECURITY

USE OF FORCE AND RESTRAINTS (UOFR)

ODO interviewed the security sergeant and found the facility did not possess industry-standard protective equipment for staff participating in a calculated use of force (**Deficiency UOFR-27**[9]).

CONCLUSION

During this inspection, ODO assessed the facility's compliance with 33 standards under NDS 2025 and found the facility in compliance with 31 of those standards. ODO found three deficiencies in two standards. Although ODO conducted a prior inspection of SCJ, ODO cannot perform a trend analysis due to the change in standard from NDS 2019 to NDS 2025. ODO recommends ERO Detroit continue to work with the facility to resolve the deficiencies that remain outstanding in accordance with contractual obligations.

Inspection Results Compared	FY 2025 NDS 2019	FY 2026 NDS 2025
Standards Reviewed	21	33
Deficient Standards	4	2
Overall Number of Deficiencies	5	3
Priority Component Deficiencies	1	0
Repeat Deficiencies	0	0
Areas Of Concern	1	0
Corrective Actions	0	0
Facility Rating	Good	Superior

[9] "Use-of-Force Team members and others participating in a calculated use of force shall wear appropriate protective gear." See ICE NDS 2025, Standard, Use of Force and Restraints, Section (II)(D)(2).

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