



Homeland
Security

September 6, 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR: Sarah R. Saldaña
Director
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

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FROM: Megan H. Mack *Megan H. Mack*
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SUBJECT: Farmville Detention Center
CRCL Complaint Nos. 15-03-ICE-0381, 15-04-ICE-0255, 15-05-ICE-0382, 15-05-ICE-0389, 15-05-ICE-0384, 15-06-ICE-0385, 15-07-ICE-0364, 15-06-ICE-0353, 15-06-ICE-0352, and 15-06-ICE-0386
Complaint Closure and Final Recommendations

This memorandum discusses the outcome of the investigation the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) conducted into conditions of detention for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detainees at the Farmville Detention Center (Farmville) in Farmville, Virginia. Following a collaborative process between ICE and CRCL that focused on findings and recommendations made by CRCL's subject-matter experts, CRCL considers the issues identified by the experts to be resolved. Consequently, as of the date of this memorandum, CRCL is closing the complaints listed above.

Background: CRCL received several complaints from Farmville detainees raising issues involving the facility's medical care, use of force and restraints, religious accommodation, environmental health and safety, and other conditions of detention.

In response to these complaints, CRCL conducted an onsite investigation to Farmville in July 2015 with the assistance of four subject matter experts: a medical expert, a mental health expert, an environmental health and safety expert, and a corrections expert. In September 2015, CRCL provided ICE with a memorandum that detailed the 22 recommendations made by the experts following the onsite investigation. In a memorandum dated March 9, 2016, ICE responded to the

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recommendations made by CRCL's subject-matter experts. ICE concurred or partially concurred with all 22 recommendations. ICE also provided comments to explain its responses.

Since CRCL's onsite investigation in July 2015, CRCL continues to receive numerous complaints concerning Farmville, primarily related to medical concerns at this facility. In addition, CRCL is aware of multiple use of force incidents (b) (7)(E)

Although CRCL has resolved and closed the complaints listed above, we will continue to monitor this facility for civil rights and civil liberties violations.

Recommendations resolved and closed. Following the collaborative process described above, CRCL has concluded that ICE has adequately addressed the 22 expert recommendations. We appreciate ICE working with CRCL on these recommendations and would like to highlight the following examples of positive changes stemming from this work:

- Regarding medical care, CRCL's expert indicated that "ICE should ensure timely access to specialty services when indicated." In its response, ICE concurred, and reported that "with limited medical resources in the area, it researched and located a new specialty provider who was 60 miles away from Farmville. The list of specialty providers was updated on September 24, 2015."
- Regarding access to hormone therapy for transgender detainees, CRCL's expert recommended that "ICE should ensure that transgender detainees at Farmville have appropriate access to medical and mental health services while in ICE custody, to include hormone therapy." In its response, ICE concurred and stated "[i]f it is determined by medical staff that a transgender detainee was already receiving hormone therapy when taken into ICE custody, the detainee shall have continued access. Transgender detainees who were not previously receiving hormone therapy when taken into ICE custody may receive hormone therapy within the facility on a case by case basis following a determination of whether there is a medical need."
- (b) (7)(E)

It is CRCL's statutory role to advise Department leadership and personnel about civil rights and civil liberties issues, ensuring respect for civil rights and civil liberties in policy decisions and implementation of those decisions. As a result, we appreciate the work that has been done by ICE and Farmville to address CRCL's concerns. We have taken into account this important work in addressing our concerns, and accordingly, CRCL is formally closing the complaints identified in this memorandum. This memorandum is our final report regarding Farmville. If

you have any questions, please contact the Director of the Compliance Branch, Dana Salvano-Dunn, at (b) (6) or (b) (6)

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