



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

FACT SHEET

August 12, 2010

Detention Compliance Oversight

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative agency in the Department of Homeland Security. ICE's Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) directorate is responsible for the agency's efforts to enforce the nation's immigration laws in a fair and effective manner. The On-Site Detention Compliance Oversight Program was established within ERO to enhance oversight and care of detainees in ICE custody as part of the agency's commitment to immigration detention reform.

The ERO Detention Monitoring Unit was created to conduct compliance monitoring on a continuous or periodic basis. The unit is comprised of Detention Service Managers (DSMs) who are embedded in ICE detention facilities, allowing them to assess potential problems and address these problems with the facility and respective field offices before they occur, or to ensure corrective action in a timely manner.

In addition, the DSMs review facility operations and identify operational or physical deficiencies, track strategic goal accomplishments, communicate with other ERO staff, follow up on actions called for in past assessments and prepare for upcoming reviews. The DSMs work with both the facility and field office staff in order to gain or maintain compliance with the ICE National Detention Standards or Performance Based National Detention Standards.

DSMs will replace existing contracted detention monitoring services within Service Processing Centers, Contract Detention Facilities, and Inter-Governmental Service Agreement facilities. They will be assigned at 52 facilities across the United States that, in combination, house approximately 80 percent of the average daily population of ICE detainees.

DSM placement in the facilities follows a two-week training session at the South Texas Detention Center in Pearsall, Texas. The training was conducted from March 22 to April 9, 2010, and included representation from ERO's 24 field offices and the ICE Office of Detention Oversight. The training sessions included both classroom instruction and hands-on inspections training which took place within the T. Don Hutto Residential Center in Taylor, Texas, and the South Texas Detention Center. The training was provided by subject matter experts assigned to the Detention Monitoring Unit, the ERO Detention Standards and Compliance Unit, the ICE Office of Detention Policy and Planning, the Department of Homeland Security's Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, ERO's Division of Immigration Health Services, the ICE Office of Professional Responsibility, and the ICE Office of Investigations.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities. For more information, visit: www.ICE.gov. To report suspicious activity, call 1-866-347-2423.