

Via Email and U.S. Mail

January 19, 2016

Major Keith Henson
Glades County Sheriff's Department
Glades Detention Center 1297 East SR 78 Moore Haven, FL 33471
Email: records1@gladessheriff.org

Supervisory Detention and Deportation Officer David Waite
United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Miami Field Office
865 SW 78th Avenue Suite 101
Plantation, FL, 33324
Email: David.G.Waite@ice.dhs.gov

Re: Glades County Detention Center - visit concerns and records request

Dear Major Henson and Supervisory Detention and Deportation Officer Waite:

On behalf of both the University of Miami Immigration Clinic and the Southern Poverty Law Center, I would like to thank you all for arranging our tour of Glades County Detention Center on November 20, 2015. We appreciate the time you took to provide the tour, although we were disappointed that we were unable to visit the housing unit and segregation unit, as we requested during the tour.

We would like to raise the following concerns and questions about ICE practices generally and the conditions at the Glades County Detention Center specifically:

- First, we are concerned that ICE is detaining pregnant women. It is our understanding that one of the pregnant women at Glades is being held in medical observation. A pregnant woman with medical needs serious enough to be housed in the medical unit should not remain in a detained setting.
- It is also our understanding that the other pregnant woman has an order of removal and is facing deportation to Haiti. If this is true, we hope that ICE has reviewed her case under the

April 1 Policy on Resumed Removals to Haiti and considered granting her a stay of removal and release from detention. It is difficult to imagine a humanitarian factor more compelling than pregnancy, especially when female deportees are already so vulnerable in Haiti.

- The medical cells, including beds and toilets, can be viewed by anyone passing by. In addition, we understand that detained or incarcerated individuals (called medical trustees) are responsible for cleaning the medical unit. The Prison Rape Elimination Act (“PREA”) requires privacy for detained individuals from being viewed in bed or unclothed by individuals of the opposite sex, and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (“HIPAA”) requires privacy for patients’ protected health information. How does Glades Sheriff’s Department and Armor Correctional ensure medical and personal privacy in for those held in the medical unit from nonmedical staff? Please provide any documents reflecting the policy relating to this issue.
- During our tour, we were unable to obtain information about what the policy was for providing recreation to individuals in the medical unit. We were told by Major Henson that whether or not an individual in the medical unit received recreation was up to the medical staff. The Armor employee with whom we spoke, however, was unable to clarify what the policy is as to whether individuals in the medical unit receive regular recreation. Do individuals detained in the medical unit receive regular recreation as a matter of policy, absent a medical reason not to receive such recreation? If so, how often? Please provide any documents reflecting the policy relating to this issue.
- There was clearly a female guard in the tower monitoring male detainees including their sleeping and bathroom spaces. Furthermore, males were present in the viewing tower where female detainees could be seen, including their sleeping and bathroom spaces. What are the facility’s policies to ensure that the facility complies with PREA standards 115.15, (limits to cross gender viewing)? Please provide any documents reflecting the policy relating to this issue.
- We understand that insufficient feminine hygiene products are provided. We were told that the pads are only provided on Tuesday and Fridays, and that women frequently did not have pads when they needed them. We were also told that the pads provided are of low absorbency, and do not last for very long. We understand that during the bus ride to court, at least one detained woman’s pad leaked, and she attended court in blood-stained clothing. Please provide us with any documents reflecting the policy or procedure to ensure that women have sufficient sanitary pads.
- We were told the jail does not permit a detained person transferred from Krome or prison to keep the items that that individual purchased from the Krome or prison commissary. Instead, the person must purchase necessary items, such as toothpaste and shampoo, from the Glades commissary at what we understand are high prices. Does Glades provide sufficient toothpaste and shampoo to meet the needs of detained individuals? If not, why not? If individuals bring

toothpaste, shampoo or other necessary items purchased from the commissary of a transferring facility, are they permitted to keep those items? If not, why not? Please provide any documents reflecting the policy relating to this issue.

- We would also like additional information about Glades' Common Fare program and how it accommodates Muslim dietary needs. We understand that there is a Kosher meal that is provided to Jewish individuals. Why is a Halal meal not similarly available to Muslim individuals? Please provide any documents reflecting the policy relating to this issue.

In addition to the above requests for documents reflecting policies, we are also requesting the following documents under Chapter 119, Florida Statutes, and Article 1, Section 24, of the Florida Constitution, reflecting the following information:

- 1) An organizational chart for the Glades County Sheriff's Office
- 2) An organizational chart for the Glades County detention facility;
- 2) A complete index of all policies and procedures of the Glades County Sheriff's Office;
- 3) A complete index of all of Armor Correctional's policies and procedures of the medical unit at Glades County Jail;
- 4) A copy of the current price list for the commissary.
- 5) A copy of the audit of the fiscal management of the commissary by a disinterested party for the last year, including the certification of compliance with the pricing requirements in accordance with the Florida model jail standards;
- 6) A document reflecting the amounts and purposes of expenditures from the profits of the commissary for the last 1 year.
- 7) A list of the names of the current members of the inmate welfare fund committee.

If you claim that any record is exempt from public disclosure, please state in writing both the statutory citation to any exemption which you claim is applicable and the specific reasons for a conclusion that the requested record is exempt. If you claim that any portion of any record is exempt, please redact that portion of the record that you believe is exempt, state in writing both the statutory citation to any exemption you believe is applicable and the specific reasons for a conclusion that the portion of the record is exempt, and produce the remainder of the record.

If the documents are available electronically, we request that they be produced in electronic format, such as via email (jessica.wallace@splcenter.org and rlerner@law.miami.edu) or on a CD, to reduce costs.

Finally, we are concerned by the fact that we were not accommodated in our request to meet with the detainees outside of the presence of ICE or Sheriff's representatives. As you are well aware, there is a chilling effect on imprisoned persons when they are asked to discuss conditions of confinement in the presence of those responsible for those confining them (sheriff's office), and in the presence of ICE, which makes custody decision and prosecutes their removal proceedings. We would request that in any future visit, we be permitted to meet with detainees outside of the presence of ICE or the Sheriff's representatives.

Thank you.

Very truly,

s/Jessica Zagier Wallace
Romy Lerner
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