



**U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement**

July 23, 2026

The Honorable André Carson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Carson:

Thank you for your April 14, 2026 letter to the Department of Homeland Security. I am responding on behalf of the Department.

Any death that occurs in U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) custody is a significant cause for concern. ICE prioritizes the health, safety, and well-being of all aliens in its custody. In accordance with ICE national detention standards and policy, ICE employs a multilayered, inter-agency approach when a detained alien passes away in ICE custody. Each facility maintains written protocols in accordance with the ICE detainee death policy. ICE national detention standards require facilities to provide comprehensive medical, dental, and mental health care from the moment aliens arrive at a facility and throughout their time in ICE custody. Many aliens may not have received recent or reliable medical treatment for existing conditions prior to entering ICE custody. For some aliens, this may represent their first access to comprehensive medical care.

Thank you again for your letter. Enclosed, please find responses to the questions posed in your letter. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact the ICE Office of Congressional Relations via email at CongressToICE@ice.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David J. Venturella".

David J. Venturella
Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Director
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Enclosure

The Department of Homeland Security's Response to Representative André Carson's April 14, 2026 Letter

1. The official cause and manner of each death.

Response: Investigations into the deaths of Lorth Sim and Tuan Van Bui are ongoing. As such, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is unable to provide a response at this time.

ICE publishes a publicly available document on its public facing website detailing relevant information and circumstances regarding any detainee death.¹ Both Tuan Van Bui and Lorth Sim's report are posted on this website.

Following next of kin/appropriate consulate notifications, ICE publishes a news release within two days of detainee deaths. Please refer to the following links for the news releases on Lorth Sim and Tuan Van Bui:

- <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/convicted-alien-felon-passes-away-indiana-hospital>;
- and
- <https://www.ice.gov/news/releases/criminal-illegal-alien-vietnam-passes-away-miami-correctional-center>.

2. A complete timeline of events in the 72 hours preceding each death.

Response: Please refer to the response to Question 1.

3. All medical records and documentation of care provided during Lorth Sim and Tuan Van Bui's time in ICE custody.

Response: Please refer to the response to Question 1.

4. Documentation of staffing levels at the time of each incident, including medical personnel (physicians, nurses, EMTs), and whether a licensed physician was on site.

Response: ICE cannot provide this information due to operational sensitivity, safety, and security of the Miami Correctional Facility.

5. The current status of intercom and emergency alert systems at the facility, and whether they were operational at the time of each death.

Response: All intercom and emergency alert systems at the Miami Correctional Facility were and are operational.

¹ <https://www.ice.gov/detain/detainee-death-reporting>

6. All inspection reports, deficiency notices, or corrective action plans issued for this facility within the past three years.

Response: The Miami Correctional Facility is scheduled to receive their initial facility compliance inspection from the ICE Office of Detention Oversight (ODO) within the Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) from September 15, 2026, to September 17, 2026. After the initial inspection, subsequent inspections will occur on a biennial schedule in accordance with agency policy. All ODO final facility inspection reports are made publicly available online in the ICE Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) library² to ensure transparency and accessibility.

7. When is the next inspection expected? What is the cadence of inspections given that this is a new facility for ICE detention?

Response: As part of its critical mission, ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) ensures each of its detention facilities adhere to the national detention standards that govern facility operations and protect the health, safety, and well-being of all aliens in its custody. Regardless of whether detention facilities are owned and operated by ICE, a state or local entity, or a contractor, each detention facility operates under one of several sets of ICE national detention standards.

At the ERO level, ERO Detention Service Managers (DSMs) and Detention Standards Compliance Officers monitor detention conditions through daily on-site compliance reviews to identify deficiencies, areas of concern, contract and facility issues, and to facilitate corrective actions. These reviews allow ICE another layer of oversight by providing senior leadership a unique tool to quickly identify and address issues that occur between or are not identified during annual inspections.

ODO is scheduled to conduct a facility compliance inspection at Miami Correctional Facility from September 15, 2026 to September 17, 2026. After the initial inspection, subsequent inspections will occur on a biennial schedule in accordance with agency policy. All ODO final facility inspection reports are made publicly available online in the ICE FOIA library³ to ensure transparency and accessibility.

After an inspection is completed, ERO is notified of any deficiencies and, as part of their compliance responsibilities and manages and oversees all corrective action plans.

8. What corrective actions have you taken to prevent future deaths?

Response: ICE is committed to ensuring all those in custody reside in safe, secure and humane environments in accordance with ICE national detention standards. These standards are strictly enforced. Comprehensive medical care is provided from the moment aliens arrive and throughout the entirety of their stay. All aliens in ICE custody receive medical, dental, and mental health intake screenings within 12 hours of arriving at each

² <https://www.ice.gov/foia/library>

³ <https://www.ice.gov/foia/library>

detention facility and a full health assessment within 14 days of entering ICE custody or arrival at a facility; access to medical appointments; and 24-hour emergency care.

9. Whether either matter has been referred to the DHS Office of Inspector General or any outside investigative authority.

Response: Per agency policy, OPR notified the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) of the detainee deaths.

10. The total number of deaths in ICE custody nationwide since January 2025, including causes of death and the locations of those deaths.

Response: Since January 20, 2025, and as of May 12, 2026, there have been 51 deaths in ICE custody. ICE publishes public-facing detainee death reports on its public facing website.⁴ The published reports include relevant details such as the date of death, location, and cause of death (if known).

11. What is the average daily population at the Miami Correctional Facility under ICE contract, and what is the facility's maximum capacity? How long is the average duration of detentions at this facility?

Response: The Miami Correctional Facility maintains 1,000 beds. As of April 19, 2026, the average length of stay at the Miami Correctional Facility was 56.3 days and the average daily population was 463.

12. How many current detainees need prescription medications? Please provide documentation demonstrating the timely and consistent delivery of such medications and the occasions when ICE has failed to provide medical care or medication in a timely manner.

Response: As of April 21, 2026, the Miami Correctional Facility administered medication to 102 detainees; 211 detainees have been provided medication to keep on their person to administer to themselves.

For the period of April 1, 2026 through April 22, 2026, the Miami Correctional Facility administered 3,242 doses of medication. Detainees refused to come to the pill line and missed 750 doses of medication. Detainees missed 44 doses of medication due to the medication not being available, which may occur when the medication is ordered and not received from the pharmacy. Detainees missed five doses of medication when they were in court. Detainees missed five doses of medication due to their blood sugar levels being too low to administer the medication.

⁴ <https://www.ice.gov/detain/detainee-death-reporting>

13. **What are the daily ICE staffing totals for the Miami Correctional Facility? How many staff are ICE employees? How many staff are contractors who have not been certified in custodial or detention protocols? How many staff are Indiana Correctional Employees handling ICE detention or custodial duties?**

Response: Regarding your request for “ICE staffing totals,” along with various staffing details at the Miami Correctional Facility, ICE cannot provide this information due to operational sensitivity and security.

14. **What has been the ratio of ICE employees to detainees over the time ICE has detained immigrants at the Miami Correctional Facility? How does this ratio vary from applicable state and federal requirements?**

Response: ICE cannot provide this information due to operational sensitivity and security. However, ICE is unaware of state and federal requirements for an ICE employee to detainee ratio in an intergovernmental service agreement facility.

15. **Has the facility been inspected to comply with the statutory requirements for custodial care? When were the inspections conducted and what were the results, including any failed inspections, audits, deficiencies or compliance reviews since ICE began using the facility last year? Please provide all reports.**

Response: To ensure compliance with each contract’s terms and conditions and the applicable detention standards, DHS and ICE employ a robust and multilevel oversight and compliance program. These multiple channels of oversight allow ICE to provide a high standard of care for the detained population. At the ERO level, DSMs and Detention Standards Compliance Officers monitor detention conditions through daily on-site compliance reviews to identify deficiencies, areas of concern, contract and facility issues, and to facilitate corrective actions. These reviews provide ICE leadership with a unique tool to quickly identify and address issues that occur between or are not identified during annual inspections.

ODO conducts routine compliance inspections of ICE detention facilities in accordance with agency policy to assess and rate each facility’s compliance with their contractually obligated detention standards. In addition to its over 30 Inspection and Compliance Specialists, ODO leverages contract subject matter experts in healthcare, food service, environmental health and safety, and security to comprehensively assess the performance of each detention facility. At the DHS level, DHS OIG and the DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties provide additional levels of oversight, allowing for a layered, multilevel approach to compliance.

ICE ensures the facilities it utilizes meet applicable detention standards and provide a safe, humane, and least restrictive environment possible. The facility is on a biennial inspection schedule and will be inspected by ODO in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026. The initial inspection is scheduled for September 15, 2026 to September 17, 2026. Once ODO completes the

inspection, any findings and the facility's rating will be outlined in a report, which is published on ICE's public-facing website.⁵

- 16. Has the facility received complaints through the ICE Detention Reporting and Information Line (DRIL) related to medical care, neglect, or unsafe conditions? Provide the number and nature of complaints.**

Response: The Detention, Removals, and Information Line has received six calls related to medical care.

- 17. Were there any delays in providing medical attention to either deceased individual? If so, explain the cause of delay.**

Response: All detainees in ICE custody are provided timely medical care in accordance with ICE national detention standards. Due to the ongoing investigation into each detainee's death, ICE cannot provide any further information at this time.

As stated above, ICE publishes a publicly available document on its public facing website detailing relevant information and circumstances regarding any detainee death. Each detained alien death, beginning with FY 2018, is available on ICE's public facing website.

- 18. When were the individual's families notified of the death? How much time expired between the death and the notification?**

Response: In accordance with the policy, ICE notifies the relevant parties and reports the death of any detainee in a timely, accurate, and appropriate manner. ICE notifies the next of kin, appropriate consulate, relevant DHS and ICE stakeholders, U.S. Congress, and the public about each detainee death. Given the ongoing investigation into each detainee's death, ICE cannot provide any further information at this time.

- 19. Has ICE preserved all surveillance footage and records related to the deaths? Will DHS commit to releasing all video footage from the relevant time periods?**

Response: Given the ongoing investigation into each detainee's death, ICE cannot provide any further information at this time. For the safety, security, and order of its facilities and to protect the privacy of detainees, staff, and visitors in ICE detention facilities, ICE does not release video footage; however, footage is preserved and reviewed as part of the detainee death investigation process.

⁵ <https://www.ice.gov/foia/odo-facility-inspections>

- 20. How much federal funding has been allocated to expanding detention capacity in Indiana in FY2025 and FY2026? Please provide a detailed description of these plans, including the specific locations for the expanded sites, the number of detainees and ICE employees and/or contractors expected to utilize these sites.**

Response: Due to the fluctuating nature of detainees, ICE has approximately 680 detainees in detention facilities located in the state of Indiana as of April 24, 2026. ICE uses various arrangements such as contracts and intergovernmental service agreements for detention. In FY 2025 and FY 2026, ICE obligated approximately \$41 million for detention capacity in Indiana. The nature and extent of ICE's continued use of such detention capacity will depend on facility usage and mission need.

ICE has approximately five officers among all facilities in the state of Indiana.

- 21. Please provide the following information regarding people in Miami Correctional Facility detention center:**

- **Place of arrest;**
- **Facility held prior to being transferred to Miami Correctional Facility;**
- **Country of origin;**
- **U.S. citizen children.**

Response: ICE is unable to provide a detainee's case-specific information without a privacy waiver. While no particular form is required, as a convenience ICE provides a written consent and waiver form in multiple languages, available at www.ice.gov/forms.

- 22. How is ICE ensuring that people in ICE custody at Miami Correctional Facility have free, private, confidential correspondence with their attorney or with a potential attorney? How can detainees find contact information for attorneys and what procedures exist to request phone or video calls to attorneys? What access do detainees have to save or print personal documents?**

Response: All detainees in ICE custody are provided with appropriate process throughout their immigration proceedings.

ICE detention facilities provide detainees with opportunities to communicate and meet privately with their current or prospective legal representatives, legal assistants, interpreters, and consular officials. Detainees have access to unmonitored telephone calls and legal mail and special correspondence and legal visitation. While in-person contact visits remain available at the request of legal representatives, non-contact legal visitation (e.g., video teleconference) is available, wherever possible. This offers an alternative for attorneys to communicate with detained clients in a timely and efficient manner, especially when in-person visitation is not possible or practical.

Detainees in removal proceedings before the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) under the Department of Justice are entitled to retain counsel at no expense to the government. Detainees are provided with a list of pro bono legal service providers

maintained by EOIR as well as contact information for the DHS OIG, the Integrity Coordination Center within OPR, and consular officials. Aliens maintain the right to communicate with their country's consulate under the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations.

Additional legal service provider lists are available on the Electronic Law Library, consistent with ICE national detention standards for required law library materials. ICE provides every facility with the Electronic Language Library and a step-by-step guide on how to navigate it to locate self-help legal resources and other detention-related information. ICE also provides access to an online legal research application of immigration law, available via tablets in many facilities. Detainees in ICE detention centers have access to law libraries for at least five hours per week. These libraries often contain comprehensive legal materials and are equipped with computers, printers and photocopiers for detainee use. Detainees may submit written requests for legal material not available in the law library. Additional information about this facility, including legal visitation and communication, may be found on ICE's public facing website.⁶

- 23. Has ICE Form 60-0001, used for congressional inquiries to ICE, been made available electronically in the tablet law library with the ability for detainees to sign?**

Response: ICE Form 60-0001 is visible via tablet in both English and Spanish, though it cannot be signed in this format. Paper forms are available in the law library. Additionally, facility staff or ICE officers will print copies to provide detainees upon request.

- 24. Have upgrades been made to the commissary system to allow ICE detainees to receive electronically transferred funds to their accounts? What is the process for transferring commissary funds from one detention center to another?**

Response: Upgrades have been made to the commissary system at the Miami Correctional Facility.⁷

⁶ <https://www.ice.gov/foia/odo-facility-inspections>

⁷ <https://www.ice.gov/detain/detention-facilities/miami-correctional-facility-mcf>