

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 28, 2025

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary of Homeland Security
Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE Washington, D.C. 20528

The Honorable Todd Lyons
Acting Director Immigration and Customs Enforcement
500 12th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20536

Director Lyons:

We write to express our deep concern and demand immediate answers regarding credible reports of inhumane treatment of detainees at Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Dallas Field Office located at 8101 N Stemmons Fwy, Dallas, TX 75247.

Our offices have received multiple troubling accounts from families of individuals detained at the facility, many of whom are asylum seekers. These reports describe conditions that are not only unacceptable, but they may also constitute serious violations of detainees' basic human rights. According to these accounts, individuals have been held for over a week, some as long as 11 days, without access to running water, air conditioning, or a proper place to sleep. Detainees have allegedly been held in overcrowded rooms with more than 30 people in a single space, in extreme Texas summer heat.

Of particular concern is the case of a person who was detained on July 18. Despite bringing his medication with him, he reportedly had not received it for days following his detention. This kind of medical neglect could lead to serious, if not life-threatening, consequences.

Additionally, many of the families impacted by this situation are actively seeking legal representation and facing barriers to access. We are alarmed by the apparent lack of due process and basic standards of care in these proceedings.

As Members of Congress, we want to remind your agency of the statutory authority Congress possesses to conduct unannounced oversight visits to facilities operated by or for the Department of Homeland Security. This authority was first established in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-93, Division D, Sec. 532)¹ and reaffirmed annually, including in Section 527(a) of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-47).²

Furthermore, subsection (b) further clarifies that Members of Congress are not required to provide prior notice of intent to enter such a facility for oversight purposes. This authority has also been affirmed by the Department itself in ICE guidance dated February 2025. Let us be unequivocally clear: any attempt to obstruct or intimidate Members of Congress carrying out their

¹ Congress. (2019). *Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020*, Pub. L. No. 116-93, 133 Stat. 2317 (2019). <https://www.congress.gov/116/plaws/publ93/PLAW-116publ93.pdf>.

² Congress. (2024). *Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2024*, Pub. L. No. 118-47, 137 Stat. 295 (2024). <https://www.congress.gov/118/plaws/publ47/PLAW-118publ47.pdf>.

lawful oversight responsibilities, including threats of arrest, would be a blatant violation of federal law.


Accordingly, we request immediate answers to the following:

1. What oversight mechanisms are currently in place to ensure humane conditions at the Dallas Field Office?
2. Are detainees being given access to water, proper ventilation or cooling, food, medical care, and a place to sleep?
3. What steps are being taken to ensure timely access to prescribed medications brought by detainees?
4. Are detainees given access to legal representation? If so, what assistance is provided to facilitate this?
5. Has ICE received any recent reports or complaints about this facility, and what actions have been taken in response?

We urge your office to investigate these allegations without delay and provide a full account to my office. The people detained at this facility, many of whom have fled violence or persecution, deserve to be treated with basic human dignity while their cases are processed under U.S. law.

We appreciate your immediate attention to this matter and request a formal response within 10 business days.


Sincerely,



Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



Julie Johnson
Member of Congress