

# END DETENTION IN YOUR DISTRICT

STATE: Nevada

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 4

FACILITIES: Nevada Southern Detention Center;  
Nye County Detention Center

CAPACITY: 350 (approx.)

## Nevada Southern Detention Center

### Contract Overview & Planned Expansion

The Nevada Southern Detention Center (NSDC) is a 200,000-square foot prison located in Pahrump, Nevada. The facility is [operated](#) by CoreCivic (formerly CCA) and owned by the United States Marshals Service (USMS). The USMS, then the Office of the Federal Detention Trustees, [contracted](#) CoreCivic for detention services, including for immigration purposes. According to [data](#) obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request, the NSDC detained 154 men and women as of November 2017.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) [reported](#) to Congress that ICE is pursuing a dedicated detention center in Salt Lake City area; which would add 200 beds to Nye County Detention Center in [Phase Two](#) of contract

### Recorded Abuses & Neglect

A January 2017 Office of Detention Oversight (ODO) Compliance Inspection of the NSDC identified seven detained individuals with chronic conditions, including hypertension, diabetes, hyperthyroidism, and chronic gallbladder disease. Two of these individuals had not been enrolled in a chronic care clinic and did not have the required written treatment plan. Additionally, the ODO found deficiencies on the facilities medical record keeping. NSDC's physician had not reviewed all intake screenings within 24 hours or on the next business day, which is a [violation](#) of ICE PBNDS 2008.

The same inspection [found](#) serious complaints regarding inadequate medical care. A woman reported lack of continuing care despite being previously sent to the Emergency Room for abdominal pain and going to the hospital, where she was told that she needed surgery. She was also not enrolled in the adequate care treatment program. A second individual diagnosed with a severe medical condition requiring surgery and with respiratory problems was not properly evaluated until prompted to do so by ODO. At the time of the inspection, a man reported that he was in pain, and that he submitted five sick call requests between December 2016 and January 2017. Though prescribed medicine, he claimed to still be in pain. Another individual stated he had a traumatic experience years ago and had been receiving counseling prior to detention. After being detained in NSDC, he had a traumatic flashback and requested psychological counseling. The facility's medical staff prescribed medication; however, he had yet to receive ongoing therapy, which he had requested.



Credit: US Immigration and Customs Enforcement

### Key Areas of Concern

- Deaths in detention
- Discrimination
- Medical neglect
- Mishandled grievance reporting

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The 2017 [ODO Compliance Inspection](#) also reviewed the Nevada Southern Detention Center's grievance log. After interviewing the facility grievance officer and the facility warden, the ODO found four instances in which the facility did not forward a copy of a grievance alleging staff misconduct to ERO.

In January 2020, VICE [reported](#) that Travis Frey, a 31-year-old captain at Nevada Southern Detention Center was active on a neo-Nazi website called Iron March, and sought to join a chapter of a white nationalist group. While working as head of security at an ICE detention center in Indianapolis between 2016 and 2017, Frey posted on the website multiple times. CoreCivic recently placed Frey on administrative leave while they investigate the report findings.

Additionally, in [January 2020](#), two Nevada senators sent a letter to the Department of Homeland Security Office of the Inspector General calling for an investigation into conditions at NSDC.



Credit: US Immigration and Customs Enforcement

## Nye County Detention Center

According to FOIA [data](#), the Nye County Detention Center (NCDC) is owned and operated by the Nye County Sheriff's Office. In May 2019, the county [approved](#) entering into an Intergovernmental Service Agreement (IGSA) with ICE to detain immigrants in the facility. Per government records, the sheriff's office will be paid [\\$92.88](#) per day per person in detention. NCDC will dedicate 100 beds to ICE detained persons. The multi-million dollar contract will also allow for the reopening of the Tonopah Jail, which closed in March 2015.

[Phase two](#) of the contract includes plans to construct a new wing of the facility and add 200 beds for ICE detained persons. Total revenue for housing and transportation in the second year are estimated at \$6.9 million. Approval for this phase will be decided by the Nye County Commission in 2020. In 2017, ICE entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Nye County Sheriff's Office.

This agreement enabled ICE to delegate certain immigration enforcement functions to county personnel, including the removal of undocumented immigrants in county correctional facilities. In [March 2018](#), the DHS reported that the NCDC does not have the staff or resources to implement the PBNDS 2011.

### Resources

- [Nevada Legal Resources](#)

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