



One Hundred Sixteenth Congress
Committee on Homeland Security
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

April 29, 2020

Rodney Cooper
Executive Director
LaSalle Corrections
26228 Ranch Road 12
Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Dear Mr. Cooper:

On March 24, 2020, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) reported a detainee at the Bergen County Jail in Hackensack, New Jersey, had tested positive for the novel coronavirus, which causes COVID-19. This was the first positive test in an ICE detention facility. Following that COVID diagnosis, ICE has reported that hundreds of detainees in its custody have tested positive for the virus, including 124 ICE detainees in seven immigration detention facilities owned or operated by LaSalle Corrections as of April 28, 2020.

Detainees held in close quarters where the consistent maintenance of social distance is difficult or impossible are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19. The Committee seeks information on the actions undertaken by ICE detention facility contractors to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 within their immigration detention facilities, including information on their compliance with COVID-19 control measures recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The Committee requests that your company provide by May 13, 2020, documents sufficient to show:

- The total number of beds available to ICE at each of LaSalle Corrections' immigration detention facilities and the current ICE detainee population at each detention facility, including a breakdown of the detainees' risk classifications with criteria for each risk category;
- The number of LaSalle Corrections personnel at each immigration detention facility who have tested positive for COVID-19, including the name and location of the detention facility to which these personnel are assigned, the date of each positive test, and the current status of each employee (such as on leave, hospitalized, returned to work, etc.);

- The measures undertaken by LaSalle Corrections at each immigration detention facility to prevent the spread of the virus among detainees and personnel after an individual in a LaSalle Corrections detention facility tests positive for COVID-19, as well as any steps taken to mitigate the spread of the virus when detainees are transferred among facilities;
- Guidance LaSalle Corrections has provided to personnel and detainees explaining how the virus spreads and how to try to protect against acquiring the virus, including the date on which the guidance was provided to detainees;
- Any policies implemented by LaSalle Corrections from January 1, 2020, to the present regarding detainee access to personal protective equipment and hygiene supplies such as masks, hand sanitizer, soap, etc. at each of LaSalle Corrections' immigration detention facilities;
- Any forms issued by LaSalle Corrections from January 1, 2020, to the present to detainees or employees prior to their receipt and/or use of personal protective equipment and hygiene supplies provided by LaSalle Corrections; and
- Copies of all reports submitted to ICE regarding confirmed or suspected COVID-19 cases at each of LaSalle Corrections' immigration detention facilities.

Thank you for your timely attention to this matter. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact my staff at (202) 226-2616.

Sincerely,



Bennie G. Thompson
Chairman