



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

July 24, 2025

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Warren:

Thank you for your June 25, 2025 letter to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

On January 31, 2024, ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO) issued ERO Policy 11087.2, *Operations of Holding Facilities*. This policy provides ERO officers with procedures for operating holding facilities located within their respective field offices. The policy guidelines apply to all holding facilities operated by ERO, located in ERO field offices, or jointly operated by ERO and ICE Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) in shared offices.

Hold rooms are intended only for short-term use and various challenges may impact a field office's ability to move detainees to longer-term detention, such as limited detention space availability across ICE's detention network, as well as staffing and transportation challenges.

On January 20, 2025, President Donald J. Trump issued several executive orders, including Executive Order 14159, *Protecting the American People Against Invasion*, and Executive Order 14165, *Securing Our Borders*, which declared a national emergency and ordered the detaining, to the maximum extent authorized by law, of aliens apprehended on suspicion of violating federal or state law, until such time as they are removed from the United States. As a result of recent increased enforcement efforts, ERO's average daily population has significantly increased. To accommodate the task of appropriately housing the increased number of detainees while ensuring their safety and security and avoid violation of holding facility standards and requirements, in June 2025, ICE issued a temporary waiver whereby aliens may be housed in a holding facility for up to, but not exceeding, 72 hours, absent exceptional circumstances. Detainees shall be in a holding facility for the least amount of time required for their processing, transfer, release, or repatriation as operationally feasible.

Local field office staff monitor hold room conditions and ICE inspects these conditions through a formal self-inspection program. The most recent self-inspection at ERO Boston was completed on March 31, 2025, with no detainees being held more than 12 hours at that time. The ERO Contact Center of Operations (ECCO) received a total of 58 calls pertaining to the Burlington (Boston) Field Office in the past 12 months. None of these calls were made by detainees, nor were any calls pertaining to conditions or complaints of the hold facility. ICE

manages the administrative custody of one of the most highly diverse populations of any correctional or detention system in the world. ICE is committed to safe, secure, and humane environments for all of those in its custody and strives to ensure appropriate conditions for confinement.

Thank you again for your letter. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact the ICE Office of Congressional Relations via email at CongressToICE@ice.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Sean M. Hackbarth
Acting Assistant Director
Office of Congressional Relations

cc: The Honorable Edward J. Markey
The Honorable Jake Auchincloss
The Honorable Seth Moulton
The Honorable Stephen F. Lynch
The Honorable James P. McGovern
The Honorable Richard E. Neal
The Honorable William R. Keating
The Honorable Katherine M. Clark
The Honorable Lori Trahan
The Honorable Ayanna Pressley