

CIC Quarterly Board Meeting: Thursday, September 17, 2026, 6:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

Board Attendees: Charles Thornton (Chair), Katharine Huffman

CIC Staff Members: Executive Director Donald Isaac, Nicole Ukaegbu (Deputy Executive Director), Patricia Marks (Senior Program Analyst), Nailah Seabron (Chief of Staff), Eric Spencer (Program Analyst), Kareem McCraney (Program Manager), Eric Weaver (Program Analyst), Princess Whitaker Taylor (Program Analyst) Maurice Cotton (Remote)

Chairman Charles Thornton requested a reading of the minutes silently.

Ms. Taylor formally introduces herself to the Chairman and board member present.

There was a motion to accept the previous minutes which was seconded.

Chairman Thornton inquired about the F.I.T. Unit (Faith based United at the CDF). Mr. McCraney responded.

Executive Director Issac recognizes Ms. Taylor again and points out 100% full participation of the CIC staff for the meeting. Director Isaac also mentions that CIC is 100% staffed after Ms. Taylor's onboarding.

Executive Director Report

Recommends giving each staff member 2 minutes to present information in the interest of time.

Deputy Director Report

Ms. Nicole Ukaegbu (Deputy Director) provided an overview of agency activities since the last meeting including:

- Publication of several new inspection reports since last meeting (BOP responses from USP and FCI Hazelton were delayed and are now posted). USP Lee is available on website. Awaiting response from USP Terre Haute inspection
- Anticipating response to most recent DOC inspection report and will be reporting on recently completed inspection
- CIC is working on a few thematic reports (one involves deaths in custody from data received via FOIA from BOP).
- CIC is updating its legislative resource booklet for incarcerated residents (FSA credits is a catalyst for the update)
- CIC uses a recommendation tracker to track recommendations in the BOP and DOC which enables follow ups respectively.
- CIC produces Information Sheets on the populations in the BOP including residents with life sentences and residents under the age of 25
- Deputy Director pointed out that CIC staff works closely with the DC Board of Elections to ensure the incarcerated residents can access voting in the District

BOP Updates

Ms. Nailah Seabron (Chief of Staff) and presented BOP updates:

- Communication difficulties since the last meeting have steadily improved as the new BOP liaison has gotten her footing as it relates to the CIC.
- Upcoming Ft Dix inspection mentioned by Ms. Seabron was conducted on September 23-24, 2026
- FY 2027 inspections being targeted are USP Victorville, USP Big Sandy, FCI Gilmer and FCI Butner. The list is not final.
- Recurring issues included lockdown frequency, limited medical/mental health staffing, and lack of program access.
- Ms. Seabron encouraged board members to provide any suggestions for other facilities where they may have heard things about.
- Postcard project is coming up where the CIC sends postcards to incarcerated residents during the holiday season.
- Two annual reports for BOP and DOC will be forthcoming.

Chairman Thornton inquired about whether the CIC can request from the BOP to interview DC residents who were convicted and sentenced in federal court as opposed to Superior court. Mr. McCraney chimed in and stated that there were instances where a resident was convicted and sentenced in both courts and was able to be interviewed by the CIC.

Ms. Seabron requested that the Chairman and Director lean on their contacts within the BOP to assist.

DOC Updates

Mr. Kareem McCraney (Program Manager) provided detailed DOC inspection updates, including:

Inspection Activities and Conditions

- CIC has conducted 12 inspections for FY 2026. Reports were issued in Q1, Q2. Q3 Report awaits a DOC response. Final inspection that took place for FY will be incorporated in annual report

Identified Issues

- Mold, shortage of staff, laundry and food are the recurring issues
- CIC has recommended to the DOC to establish a mold remediation team as well as not house residents in cells with mold. The DOC has adhered to the latter recommendation relating to recent inspections
- DOC is not adhering to their policy of laundry services three time a week for residents
- Central Cell Block should relocate by end of the year and 85-90% of the renovation at the new location is complete.

Chairman Thornton inquired about DOC residents having access to programming provided by outside agencies because staff is not responsive and intentional about ensuring residents can attend these programs.

Mr. Weaver updated the board about status of the anticipated Halfway House opening stating that the RFA was extended from August 21 to October 16 of 2026. As of these minutes, Core DC is still charged with building and maintaining the halfway house. Whoever ultimately wins the contract will have 120 days to get the halfway house up and running.

Board member Ms. Huffman noted that communication between the BOP and the CIC has significantly improved, addressing a need that had been long overdue.

Meeting adjourned.