



DC CORRECTIONS
INFORMATION
COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

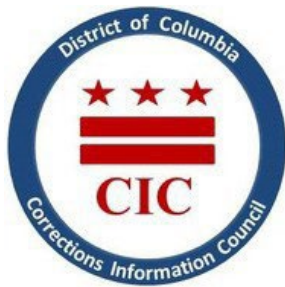


2022



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Introduction

The District of Columbia Corrections Information Council (CIC) is an independent oversight agency that inspects, monitors, and reports on the conditions of confinement of DC residents at facilities operated by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), the DC Department of Corrections (DOC), or their private contractors. During fiscal year 2022, the CIC mandate included almost 2,500 inmates in over 115 BOP prisons and halfway houses across 35 states, as well as an average of over 1,200 inmates in DOC custody at local facilities.

Established by the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, the CIC had board members first appointed in 2002 and again in 2006. The agency was reestablished in 2012 with a new board and its first operating budget. The CIC's mandate was expanded by legislation in 2003 and 2011, and in 2017, the board was expanded from three members to five. In 2019, the CIC was given the responsibility to report annually on the conditions of individuals who had been sentenced under the Youth Rehabilitation Act (YRA).

The CIC is forever thankful for the support and collaboration of those incarcerated who are willing to communicate with the CIC, community members, service providers, government agencies, corrections agencies, and decision-makers – all who are affected by and affect the lives of incarcerated DC residents.

Board and Staff

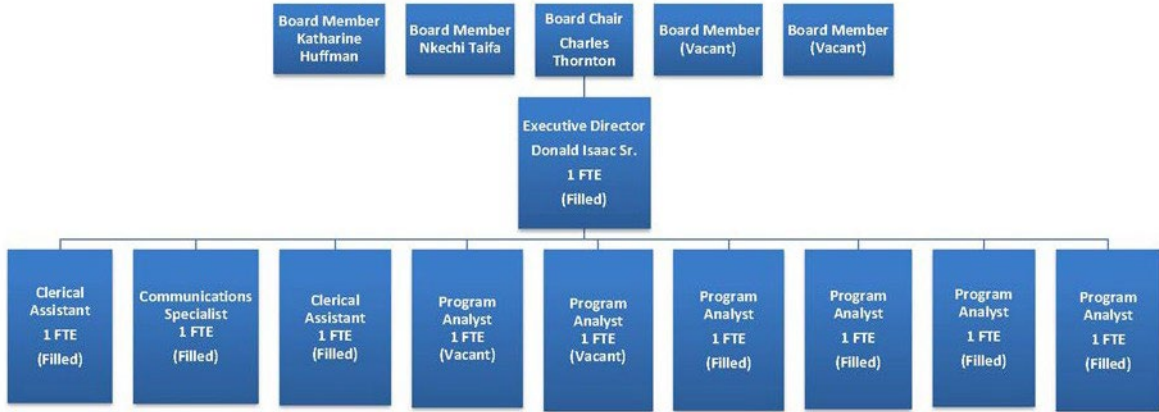
Charles Thornton – Board Chair since 2016

Katharine Huffman – Board Member since 2012

Nkechi Taifa – Board Member since 2018

- ❖ Donald Isaac, Sr, Executive Director (November 2018-present);
- ❖ Sheila Walker, Clerical Assistant (November 2015-present);
- ❖ Nicole Ukaegbu, Program Analyst (May 2018 – present);
- ❖ Kareem McCraney, Program Analyst (February 2019-present);
- ❖ Nailah Bynoe- Seabron, Communications Specialist (June 2019 – March 2021) Program Analyst (March 2021-Present);
- ❖ Chrisiant Bracken, Program Analyst (September 2018 – August 2022);
- ❖ Kennon Ross, Program Analyst (November 2021 – September 2022);
- ❖ Patricia Marks, Program Analyst (June 2019- present);
- ❖ Sydney Lang, Communications Specialist (January 2022-present);
- ❖ Maurice Cotton, Clerical Assistant (May 2019 – present).

**DC Corrections Information Council
Organizational Chart
(Effective September 30, 2022)**



Facility Inspections

In fiscal year 2022, the CIC conducted thirteen inspections and one site visit, including six BOP facilities and the three facilities operated by the DOC: the Central Detention Facility (CDF, also known as the DC Jail), the Central Treatment Facility (CTF), and the Central Cell Block (CCB). Four of the six BOP facility inspection reports were published within FY22. The CIC conducted one site visit at the CDF after the US Marshall's impromptu inspection, three inspections at the CTF (two inspections concerning the incarcerated men, and the other concerning the incarcerated women), two inspections at the CDF, and one inspection at the CCB.

Inspected Facilities

DC Central Detention Facility

The CDF is a mixed security jail facility for men operated by the DOC, located in Southeast Washington, DC. The CIC inspected the CDF on March 24, 2022. A follow-up inspection was conducted on July 12, 2022. The DC population at that time was 972 men.

DC Central Treatment Facility

The CTF is a mixed security jail facility for men and women operated by the DOC, located in Southeast Washington, DC. The CIC inspected the CTF on March 17, 2022, and May 17-18, 2022. A follow-up inspection was conducted on July 12, 2022. The DC population at that time was 322, which included 47 women.

Central Cell Block

The CCB is a mixed security holding facility for men and women operated by the DOC, located in Northwest Washington, DC. The CIC inspected the facility on April 5, 2022. The DC population at that time was 40, which included six women.

VoA Halfway House (RRC)

Volunteers of America (VOA) is a Residential Reentry Center (RRC) located in Baltimore, Maryland, which is approximately 43 miles from DC. The CIC conducted an in-person follow up inspection on April 25, 2022, after the November 2020 virtual visit. The DC population at that time was 54 men.

FCC Petersburg

FCC Petersburg is a federal prison complex, which includes a medium security facility, a low-security facility, and an adjacent satellite prison camp. It is located in Hopewell, Virginia, which is approximately 150 miles from DC. The CIC conducted an inspection of the medium and low facilities on December 4-6, 2021. The DC population at that time was 127 men at the medium and 59 at the low.

USP Lewisburg

USP Lewisburg is a medium security prison located in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, which is approximately 189 miles from DC. The CIC conducted an inspection on February 23, 2022. The DC population at that time was approximately 131 men, which included 117 pre-trial detainees.

FCI Fort Dix

FCI Fort Dix is a low security prison located in Fort Dix, New Jersey, which is approximately 165 miles from DC. The CIC conducted an inspection on June 15-16, 2022. The DC population at that time was 52 men.

USP Canaan

USP Canaan is a high security prison located in Waymart, Pennsylvania, which is approximately 262 miles from DC. The CIC conducted an inspection on August 16-17, 2022. The DC population at that time was 99 men.

USP Pollock

USP Pollock is a high security prison located in Pollock, Louisiana, which is approximately 1,170 miles from DC. The CIC conducted an inspection on September 28-29, 2022. The DC population at that time was 54 men.

DC Department of Corrections (DOC)

Per the 2020 Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the DOC, the CIC is required to conduct four quarterly inspections and produce one annual report per year. In fiscal year 2022, Covid restrictions and safety guidelines decreased in the District, which enabled the CIC to perform more onsite inspections. The DOC consists of:

- Central Detention Facility (CDF or “DC Jail”) - adult men only;
- Correctional Treatment Facility (CTF) - women and adult men;
- Central Cellblock (CCB) - the holding cells for those awaiting an appearance at DC Superior Court;
- Contracted beds in residential reentry centers (RRC’s or “halfway houses”).

Central Detention Facility Inspections

CDF Inspection Report- Published May 5, 2022

The CIC conducted an inspection of the CDF on March 17, 2022. CIC staff inspected five of the eighteen housing units in the facility. The inspection focused on programming, medical services, and the Inmate Reception Area (IRC).

Follow up Report on Findings and Recommendations – Published October 21, 2022

On July 12, 2022, the CIC conducted a follow up inspection at the CDF to examine the status of the findings from the previous inspection in March. The follow up inspection focused on the Ready Center, grievance procedures, and meals at the DOC.

Central Treatment Facility Inspections

CTF Inspection Report – Published May 5, 2022

The CIC conducted an inspection of the CTF on March 24, 2022. Representatives from the Office of Human Rights (OHR) accompanied the CIC for this inspection to assess language access compliance. Other areas of concern included the medical department, reentry resources, and programming.

Follow up Report on Findings and Recommendations – Published October 21, 2022

On July 12, 2022, the CIC conducted a follow up inspection at the CTF. This inspection followed up on concerns in the Young Men Emerging unit (YME) and the 50 and over unit.

District of Columbia Women at the Correctional Treatment Facility – Published September 23, 2022

The CIC conducted an inspection of the CTF on May 17 and 18, 2022. This inspection focused on the 47 women in the facility at the time. The inspection focused on access to programming, hygiene, meals, and commissary.

Central Cell Block Inspection

CCB Inspection Report – Published May 5, 2022

The CIC conducted an inspection of the CCB on April 5, 2022. This inspection focused on recommendations made by the CIC in fiscal year 2021. Areas of concern included access to medical treatment, maintenance, and staffing.

Bureau of Prisons- Observations and Publications

According to the October 1, 2022, Bureau of Prisons (BOP) census data, there were 2,472 DC residents in BOP custody. DC inmates are incarcerated in over 110 different facilities and contract facilities across 35 states, including the District of Columbia.

The BOP classifies facilities according to five designated security levels: minimum, low, medium, high, and administrative. Administrative facilities are institutions with specialized missions, such as detention centers, medical centers, transit centers, and the “Supermax” in Colorado. They are generally able to house residents of any security level. Security levels are based on the physical features and staffing levels of the institutions. At lower security levels, residents have less restricted movements and greater access to programming and reentry services. As security levels increase, movement decreases. The name of a BOP facility generally reflects its designated security level.

- Federal Prison Camps (FPCs) are minimum security facilities.

- Federal Correctional Institutions (FCCs) are generally low or medium security.
- United States Penitentiaries (USPs) are generally high security. They often have adjacent minimum security satellite camps that provide inmate labor to the main institution.
- Secure Female Facility (SFF) in Hazelton, West Virginia is a low security facility for women, which is included as part of the FCI Hazelton institution.
- Federal Correctional Complexes (FCCs) refer to locations where several facilities are located in close proximity to each other, which often share resources and staffing.
- Federal Medical Centers (FMCs) and the Medical Center for Federal Prisons (MCFP) are medical facilities that provide treatment for serious or chronic medical problems.
- Federal Detention Centers (FDCs), Metropolitan Detention Centers (MDCs), and Metropolitan Correctional Centers (MCCs) are administrative detention facilities that primarily house individuals who are awaiting trial.
- The Federal Transit Center (FTC) in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, is a transit center located near an airport to provide a central hub for the transportation of inmates across the country.
- Administrative Maximum Security Penitentiary (ADX) in Florence, Colorado, and the Administrative United States Penitentiary (AUSP) in Thomson, Illinois, are the highest security level facilities in the BOP, where residents are generally confined to their cells for 23 to 24 hours per day.

In fiscal year 2022, the CIC published five inspection reports:

FCI Cumberland – Published March 18, 2022

The CIC conducted an inspection of FCI Cumberland in June of 2021. The inspection focused on conditions in the SHU, availability of relevant programming for incarcerated residents, and medical care concerns.

USP Victorville – Published July 5, 2022

The CIC conducted an inspection of USP Victorville in September of 2021. The inspection focused on enhancing educational programming staff and medical staff, employment for DC residents, and timely treatment for mental health services.

FCC Petersburg – Published September 9, 2022

The CIC conducted an inspection of FCC Petersburg in December of 2021. CIC staff inspected both the

low and medium security facilities, with an inspection team that included staff from the Mayor's Office on Returning Citizen Affairs (MORCA). The inspection focused on programming, reports of physical plant issues, and reentry affairs.

Volunteers of America Residential Reentry Center- Published September 14, 2022

The CIC conducted an inspection of the VOA RRC in April of 2022. The CIC's in person inspection at the VOA was a follow up to the virtual visit from November of 2020. The follow up inspection focused on programming specific to DC residents and services.

USP Thomson – Published September 16, 2022

The CIC conducted an inspection of USP Thomson in July of 2021. Per the CIC's MOU with the BOP, the inspection team was not granted access to the Special Management Unit (SMU), where the majority of DC individuals are housed. The inspection focused on reports of staff violence, insufficient staffing, and inadequate medical/mental health care resources.

Thematic Reports and Info Sheets

In FY22, the CIC published one thematic report and six info sheets. The CIC researches and writes about issues affecting incarcerated DC residents beyond reports based on facility inspections or CIC events.

DC Youth Rehabilitation Act Report- Updated – Published February 16, 2022

In the 2018 amendment of the Youth Rehabilitation Act (YRA), the Mayor of the District of Columbia was required to develop and submit a strategic plan for providing facilities, treatment, and services for YRA offenders [in the care and custody of the DOC] by September 30, 2019. The statute also specified that the BOP is authorized to provide these services for (YRA) offenders in their custody. In November 2021, JPI completed its strategic plan for YRA offenders in the District of Columbia and presented it to the Mayor for implementation in accordance with the statute.

Info Sheets Published in FY22:

- Fact Sheet Female DC Offenders in BOP Custody as of January 1, 2022
- Institutions with 50 or more DC residents (as of July 1, 2022)
- DC Residents in Custody and the First Step Act
- Phone Number for Fairview Halfway House
- Voting While Incarcerated
- United States Parole Commission (USPC) Docket

CIC Operations

Monthly Newsletters

During FY22, the CIC released monthly bulletins, which updates the community on activities and recently published reports. The CIC Bulletin also continued to develop the data corner. The data corner section gives information on how many residents are in the DOC and BOP, as well as COVID data for staff and residents.

Website Initiatives

The CIC's website continued to grow in FY22. Website updates included, agency progress, CIC Radars, inspection reports and bulletins, and social media notifications for the community. Website updates also included a reorganization of CIC inspection reports and the CIC Bulletin.

Open Board Meetings in FY22

The CIC held three board meetings that were open to the public in fiscal year 2022. Due to Covid-19 and requirements of social distancing, all meetings were held virtually. The meetings provide an opportunity for members of the public to learn about the agency's operations and findings regarding the conditions of confinement. Topics discussed at meetings include recent and upcoming inspections, community engagement, and reporting practices. The meetings were held on October 26, 2021, January 26, 2022, and April 21, 2022.

Strategic Planning and Racial Equity

This fiscal year, the CIC sought to strengthen agency goals, reevaluate internal processes, and assess the impact of racial equity in relation to the agency mission. During two-day engagement sessions, CIC staff met with strategic planning experts to develop best practices for recruitment, refining the mission of the agency, and staff roles and responsibilities.

Community Outreach and Events

Social Media Engagement

The CIC's follower and engagement count increased on the three main social media platforms (Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter). As of January 2022, the follower amount for Twitter was 486, Facebook was 476, and Instagram was 462. As of September 1, 2022, followers on social media platforms all surpassed 500, with Twitter reaching 502, Facebook reaching 522, and Instagram reaching 542. The CIC increased social media posts to notify followers of newsletters, email blasts, and major events, such as holidays and election days. This also included Data Corners, blurbs from various reports and info sheets, the announcement of CIC Bulletins, and announcements concerning the publishing of inspection reports. Comparatively, in FY21, the CIC posted 15 posts on Instagram, 29 posts on Twitter, and 0 posts on our CIC Facebook page. In FY22, the CIC posted 40 posts on Instagram, 39 posts on

Twitter, and 33 posts on Facebook. The CIC hopes to continue this trend during FY23.

IRAA Mini Documentary Filming

As part of the CIC's continued interest in the returning citizens population, the CIC began the process of interviewing, filming, and producing a mini documentary focused on the Incarceration Reduction Amendment Act (IRAA). In partnership with the Office of Cable, TV, Film, and Entertainment, staff interviewed eight returning citizens who benefited from the IRAA legislation, as well as one DC Councilmember.

Holiday Postcards

Each year during the winter holiday season, the CIC distributes postcards to DC residents in BOP facilities. The CIC continued its annual tradition of hosting events with community partners in FY22. The 2021 postcards included the message, "DON'T STOP," accompanied by an encouraging quote from the late music producer and DC native, Chucky Thompson. The CIC is grateful for the continued support of constituents and DC Government agencies who participated in completing over 2,500 postcards.

Voter Education

In fiscal year 2022, the CIC collaborated with the Board of Elections to increase voter awareness. CIC staff participated in several voter registration events to educate incarcerated residents in the DOC about candidates for the 2022 elections. The CIC also facilitated communication between local candidates and the DOC to disseminate information to incarcerated voters. Lastly, the CIC was present at the DOC's primary and general elections to oversee the voting process.