District of Columbia
Corrections Information Council

Department of Corrections'
Central Detention Facility, Correctional Treatment Facility, and Central Cell Block

Report on Findings and Recommendations

Correctional Treatment Facility (CTF)

Central Detention Facility (CDF)

April 3, 2026

District of Columbia Corrections Information Council

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About the District of Columbia Corrections Information Council

The District of Columbia Corrections Information Council (CIC) is an independent oversight body mandated by the United States Congress and the Council of the District of Columbia to inspect, monitor, and report on the conditions of confinement in correctional facilities where residents from the District of Columbia are incarcerated. This includes facilities operated by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), the District of Columbia Department of Corrections (DOC), and private contractors.

The CIC reports its observations and recommendations to the District of Columbia Representative in the United States Congress, the Mayor of the District of Columbia, the Council of the District of Columbia, the District of Columbia Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice, the Director of the BOP, the Director of the DOC, and the community.

Although the CIC does not handle individual complaints or provide legal representation or advice, individuals are still encouraged to contact the CIC. Reports, concerns, and general information from incarcerated DC residents and the public are very important to the CIC, and they greatly inform our inspection schedule, recommendations, and reports. However, unless expressly permitted by the individuals or required by law, names and identifying information of residents, corrections staff not in leadership, and members of the general public will be kept anonymous and confidential.

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Central Detention Facility Profile

Date of Inspection: December 10, 2025
Location: SE, Washington, DC
Security Level: Minimum, Medium, Maximum

Rated Capacity: 2,164
12/10/2025 Population: 1,372

Correctional Treatment Facility Profile

Date of Inspection: December 10, 2025
Location: SE, Washington, DC
Security Level: Minimum, Medium

Rated Capacity: 1,400
12/10/2025 Population: 733 (164 women)

Central Cell Block Profile

Date of Inspection: December 12, 2025
Location: NW, Washington, DC

Rated Capacity: 107
12/12/2025 Population: 54 (12 women)

Introduction

The CIC visited both the Central Detention Facility (CDF) and Correctional Treatment Facility (CTF) on December 10, 2025, and the Central Cell Block (CCB) on December 12, 2025, as part of the CIC's mandate to inspect DOC facilities quarterly.

This report consolidates multi-source unit walkthroughs, which includes resident interviews, staff conversations, and direct observations across CDF, CTF, and CCB.

Key Findings

The CIC highlights the following facility practices at CDF:

- Multiple housing units at the jail were going through renovations during the time of CIC's inspection.
- The jail was on modified lockdown during the CIC's visit. The modification comes from the increase in population (60-70 new residents per night).
- Residents in the disciplinary housing unit have access to their tablets and can communicate with their loved ones.
- During the visit to housing unit NW 3, it was discovered that there were multiple cells with mold growing on the walls. Several residents had to be relocated to different cells or housing units.
- There is school being conducted in South 1. In the past, there has been no school allowed in South 1 because it is a lock-down housing unit; however, the DOC has made modifications that allow for some in-person education programming by Maya Angelou School. TV's will also be installed in the unit in the coming months.

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The CIC highlights the following facility practices at CTF:

- Female residents at the CTF communicated that there is minimal in-person programming for women in the housing units.

The CIC highlights the following facility practice at CCB:

- A cleaning crew comes into CCB three times a day to perform sanitation duties.
- There is a new sump pump in CCB.

Central Detention Facility

North 1 – Disciplinary Segregation/Restrictive Housing
Population: 34

- Residents in this unit have been found guilty of a facility infraction and are placed on disciplinary segregation. Residents may also be housed here temporarily due to an overflow of pre-hearing detention.
- Residents are allowed one hour and forty-five minutes for recreation and fifteen minutes for a shower on Monday through Friday.
- Residents have been allowed access to their tablets, which allows them to communicate with their loved ones while locked down; previously, this was not allowed. Staff mentioned that this recent privilege has contributed to calmness in the unit.
- Residents can have monthly visitation in this unit via tablets.
- Some residents communicated that the staff was not responding to their grievances.

- There was a flood on the bottom right tier that came from the top tier showers**.**

South 1 – Specialized Housing Unit/Administrative Segregation
Population: 34

- This unit is for residents who are placed in segregation for administrative reasons, not disciplinary reasons.
- Residents are allowed two hours and forty-five minutes for recreation time and fifteen minutes for a shower on Monday through Friday.
- Educational programs are allowed in this unit through the Maya Angelou School, which brings the service to the unit daily and can accommodate up to four students at a time. Three students in this unit are currently taking classes.
- Housing hearings take place in this unit every Wednesday.
- According to staff, TV's will be placed in the unit within the next few months.
- Correctional Officers make rounds every thirty minutes.
- There are two safe cells in this unit, and one was occupied.

Northwest 2 – Maximum Custody (general population)
Population: 61

- The top and bottom right tier residents in this unit have been temporarily relocated to NE 2 due to renovations.
- Residents communicated that they have not been allowed haircuts in three months.
- Residents communicated that the housing unit has been locked down every Wednesday for reasons unknown to them.
- Residents communicated that their linen returns soiled after being washed.

Southwest 2 – Maximum Custody (general population)
Population: 123

- Residents mentioned that they receive one roll of toilet paper each Wednesday and Sunday, but it's not enough**.**
- Residents stated that the housing unit has been locked down every Sunday during the past four months for reasons unknown to them.
- Residents complained that two hours on the law library tablet is not enough time, especially considering that you must wait twenty-four hours before using it again.
- Residents reported that the Wi-Fi is inconsistent, which results in shortened calls and visitation on tablets.
- Residents communicated that only two out of five visiting screens in the unit are working, and even though tablets have visitation, the residents must pay sixteen cents per minute on them.

North 3 – Mental Health and Administrative Housing Step-down
Population: 19 (14 mental health step-down) (5 administrative step-down)

- There are two sides to this unit: one side is for mental health, and the other side is programming for those who come from administrative housing.
- The administrative step-down program is designed to reintegrate residents who come from administrative segregation into the general population. The program lasts 120 days. The program is still in its infancy, and has been operating for eight weeks. Currently, it has five residents.
- The mental health program is designed for residents who come from South 3, which is the main mental health unit. North 3 is designed to help those with mental health issues transition to the general population. Those with more severe mental health issues remain in South 3.
- There is a doctor that comes to the unit to help residents cope with anger issues. The program also incorporates group therapy sessions.
- Residents program Monday through Friday. Programs include rehabilitation, life and wellness skills, art therapy, Thinking for a Change, the Art of Living Foundation (yoga sessions), Free Minds Book Club, and the Hope Foundation.

Northwest 3 – General population
Population: 66

- The CIC went to Northwest 3 to visit with a resident, and subsequently observed what appeared to be mold growing in the cell. At the same time, other residents communicated that there was mold in their cells. Further observation revealed that there were multiple cells where residents were housed with what appeared to be mold. The CIC informed DOC staff, and they relocated those residents to other cells and housing units.
- The right side of the unit was vacant and cordoned off for renovations.
- The CIC inquired about the mold remediation team and whether they had previously inspected the cells in this unit; however, the DOC staff did not have an answer.

CDF Recommendations:

- The DOC mold remediation team needs to inspect the areas where there are complaints of mold, and no residents should be housed in cells where mold is present.
- The DOC should implement a system to provide unlimited access to the law library on the tablets.

Central Treatment Facility

E1B – Female housing unit
Population: 27

- The women in this unit communicated that they would like to have in-person programming within the unit, but currently there is none.

D3A – General population
Population: 46

- There were several residents who had medical equipment in their cells (authorized by the medical department). These gentlemen applauded medical services for attending to their medical needs, but other residents said the medical services could be better because they are not attentive.
- The CIC met with the newly elected ANC commissioner in this unit.
- Residents said that they feel there is a lack of processing and referrals for reentry needs related to homelessness and substance abuse.

D4A – 50 and older unit
Population: 42

- Residents must receive a recommendation from the case management team to live in this unit.
- Residents communicated that there are no ladders in the cells to help them get to the top bunk, and that it is difficult to climb from the bottom to the top without risk of injury.
- Residents communicated that there is not much in-person programming for them on this unit. They also reported that there are not many options for them to get information about job opportunities and reentry opportunities, which they feel is due to their age.

CTF Recommendations:

- In the 50 and older unit, consider placing a mechanism in the cells to assist residents with climbing onto the top bunk.
- Consider ways to make in-person programming available to the female population units that lack it.

Central Cell Block

Central Cell Block (CCB)
Population: 54 (12 women)

- CCB is still scheduled for relocation by Spring 2026.
- There were eight cells that required maintenance.
- All handicapped cells were functioning.
- There was a new sump pump installed.
- There is a cleaning crew that comes three times a day to clean cells and collect trash.
- There were two power outages recorded in the medical area. This did not affect the entire CCB facility - only the medical area, due to the use of additional heaters.
- There was one resident that refused to go court. Accommodations were made for him to access court via video screen.