

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**



March 25, 2024

Reverend Donald L. Isaac  
Executive Director  
Corrections Information Council  
1400 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Director Isaac:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a response to the Corrections Information Council (CIC) follow up report. CIC re-inspected the Central Detention Facility and Correctional Treatment Facility on January 20, 2023.

DOC appreciates our ongoing partnership with CIC whereby we look both to seek improved circumstance and outcomes for District of Columbia inmates returning to the community.

As we have stated previously, DOC is frequently audited and/or inspected by several agencies, such as the American Correctional Association and the National Commission on Correctional Health Care, and these agencies use measurable standards that DOC is familiar with to ensure we are compliant with the standards/regulations that will be used to audit our facilities. Therefore, using a standardized recognized instrument will allow DOC to understand CIC standards and further know what to expect from CIC as an inspecting body. We continue to encourage CIC to draft or implement recognizable standards to ensure that DOC is able to appropriately ensure compliance or respond to inquiries.

I hope that you find this information responsive to your observations. Should you require additional information or further clarification of our submittal, please contact me at (202) 673-7316.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Thomas Faust". The signature is stylized and written over a white background.

Thomas Faust  
Director

## **Corrections Information Council Findings and Recommendations for the Central Detention Facility (CDF), Correctional Treatment Facility (CTF and Central Cell Block (CCB)**

### **CIC Recommendation:**

1. *Continue to provide programming for those residents housed in maximum custody units in addition to those in general population.*

### **DOC Response:**

Residents at CDF continue to be provided expansive secondary and post-secondary educational opportunities. An outline of course offerings is available in the Spring 2024 course catalog shared.

### **CIC Recommendation:**

2. *Respond to grievances within the time frames outlined by DOC policy.*

### **DOC Response:**

On December 6, 2023, the date of this inspection, there were no grievances out of compliance with policy timeframes. The status of all Inmate Grievance Procedures (IGPs) is reviewed daily to ensure responses are received from the responsible divisions (Education, Programs, Operations or Administration). Follow up notifications are sent to responsible divisions (Education, Programs, Operations or Administration) who have not returned their responses within 7 days as a reminder to do so before they are out of compliance.

### **CIC Recommendation:**

3. *Provide physical access to the law library.*

### **DOC Response:**

Residents currently have access to LexisNexis legal research on their GTL tablet which is the same access that they would have in the Law Library and residents that have the Orijin (APDS) education tablets have access to FastCase legal research. Residents who request copies of information or materials are forwarded that information on a weekly basis. Our residents are also provided pens, paper and envelopes with each response they receive from the Law Library. We continue to receive requests from them through the Orijin (APDS)

tablets as well as paper copies that are placed in the mail and are received via case management (email) or from other staff.

**CIC Recommendations:**

- 4. Provide more access to the inside gymnasium for recreation.*

**DOC Response:**

Residents housed at the CTF are offered 1 hour of access to the indoor gymnasium (5) five days a week, Monday through Friday.

**CIC Recommendations:**

- 5. Employ a mental health specialist onsite at the CCB.*

**DOC Response:**

There is a high-level medical provider on-site at CCB 24-7 who provides all needed medications, including psychiatric medications. For any more urgent needs, arrestees are referred to Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program (CPEP). The Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) provides mental health support for people in court.