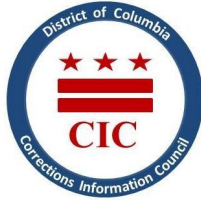


District of Columbia
Corrections Information Council



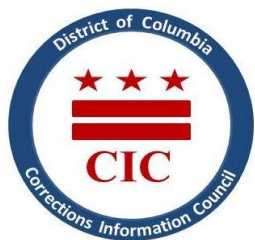
FCI Fort Dix

Report on Findings and Recommendations



FCI Ft. Dix Administration Building

December 8, 2022



District of Columbia Corrections Information Council

Charles Thornton, Board Chair
Katharine A. Huffman, Board Member
Nkechi Taifa, Board Member

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 D.C. 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 are kept anonymous and confidential.

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Facility Overview

FCI Ft. Dix Facility Profile

Dates of Inspection: June 15-16, 2022

Location: Fort Dix, New Jersey

Security Level: Low

Distance from D.C.: 165 miles

Year of Opening: 1992

Rated Capacity: 4,600

06/15/22 Population: 3,215

D.C. Code Offenders: 52

CIC Survey Respondents: 21

COVID Operations: Level 3

Introduction

FCI Fort (Ft.) Dix is a low-security facility for male offenders. The institution is located on the grounds of Ft. Dix military base in Fort Dix, New Jersey. The complex has an East and West side, a minimum-security camp, and a central administration building. The compound is operating on level three COVID guidelines, resulting in modified operations and controlled movements.

The CIC and a subject-matter expert from the Mayor's Office on Returning Citizen Affairs (MORCA) conducted an inspection of FCI Ft. Dix on June 15, 2022. The CIC was granted access to the west side of the Ft. Dix compound. The CIC surveyed and interviewed 18 of the 52 D.C. Code offenders on June 15-16, 2022. The CIC then sent out copies of the surveys to any D.C. Code Offenders at Ft. Dix who were unavailable to speak with the CIC at the time of the visit and received three additional survey responses. Survey respondents' ages ranged from 25-75 years old. Eighteen of the 21 total respondents were black, and 15 of the 21 total respondents had received their high school diploma or GED. Approximately 18 D.C. Code offenders at Ft. Dix have less than two years of time left to serve.

The CIC surveyed residents about their voting experience at Ft. Dix for the D.C. primary election on June 21, 2022. According to staff, approximately fifteen D.C. residents stated that they had received their ballots on time and submitted their ballots via the mail room at Ft. Dix.¹

¹ Data from the Board of Elections reports that 13 D.C. residents from Ft. Dix submitted their ballots.

Key Findings

Housing

- The CIC was granted access to the RDAP and UNICOR housing unit. CIC staff was not taken to a general housing unit but was told that the RDAP and UNICOR units were identical to general housing units. Survey respondents stated that this was inaccurate, citing differences in capacity, cleanliness, access to programming and resources, and access to A/C.
- Face masks are required to be worn by residents on this unit.
- All survey respondents stated conditions in general housing units are poor. Residents expressed concerns with black mold in the shower and bathroom areas of the facility.
- Residents stated that cleaning supplies were scarce or not strong enough to clean mold and bacteria in the shower area.
- All respondents stated that there is no A/C in general housing units. Residents stated that a working A/C unit is one of the perks or incentives to increase resident participation in UNICOR or RDAP.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

FCI Fort Dix escorted D.C. Corrections Information Council (CIC) on a scheduled on-site tour consisting of: UNICOR factory, Health Services, Psychology, Recreation, and Housing Unit 5841 (UNICOR) with inmate population present, Education, and Housing Unit 5852 (RDAP) with inmates present. CIC Program Analyst member requested to proceed to the visitation building instead of general housing unit 5812 due to the range of limited time for completion of interviews.

Special Housing Unit (SHU)

- Four of the 21 survey respondents had spent time in the SHU at Ft. Dix.
- Suicide prevention training is offered quarterly to staff in the SHU.
- Residents in the Special Housing Unit (SHU) are also allowed library access but cannot checkout hardcover books.
- Two of the survey respondents were in the SHU at the time of the CIC's inspection. They were set to be released within three months.
- Respondents stated that the SHU is cleaner than the general housing units and has A/C.
- Residents confirmed access to books, shower, cleaning supplies, and other basic items while in SHU.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

Due to safety and security reasons, inmates in the SHU are not allowed hardcover books. Education staff deliver books to the SHU on a monthly basis and inmates may request and have access to soft cover books. SHU has a satellite library stocked with reading materials for the inmate population assigned in SHU and a book exchange is scheduled weekly.

Staff

- Residents reported that there is no consistent case management service.
- Respondents stated that staff becomes dismissive, disrespectful, or unresponsive when asked about operations or resources.
- Residents reported that housing unit officers are usually responsive to emergencies.
- Six respondents reported that they were harassed or abused by staff. Respondents said that staff was verbally disrespectful and conducted unnecessary shakedowns or searches of property.
- Half of all survey respondents stated that staff rarely wears masks although they are required.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

The CIC visited FCI Fort Dix on June 15-16, 2022. CIC staff did not report any staff misconduct regarding any inmates during their visit to Executive Staff. The Bureau of Prisons was made aware of these allegations, upon receipt of this report, which was forwarded electronically on September 23, 2022.

In accordance with Program Statement 3420.11, Standards of Employee Conduct, the Bureau of Prisons takes allegations of staff misconduct seriously, and makes every attempt to hold staff to the highest standards. All allegations of staff misconduct are reviewed, and if necessary, referred to the appropriate department for investigation.

The CIC did not provide FCI Fort Dix with detailed and specific information to investigate or substantiate any allegation of abuse. Therefore, the BOP is not able to thoroughly address any of these claims.

Grievances

- All respondents stated that grievance forms are readily available. However, some residents stated that the grievance process at Ft. Dix was unclear and not timely.
- Six respondents said that they had used the grievance process, and four said that the grievance was resolved to their satisfaction.

Medical

- Approximately half of the total population at Ft. Dix is receiving chronic care services. They are seen at least once a year, but more if needed.
- Respondents who do not receive chronic care stated that the medical and dental staff were timely and respectful, and they were satisfied with the level of care at Ft. Dix.
- Five respondents who receive chronic care indicated that they have not received the care or accommodations required for their conditions, such as special orthopedic shoes, CPAP machines, or canes.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

The CIC did not provide specific inmate information to FCI Fort Dix staff to review or address this claim.

Mental Health Services

- There are three staff psychologists and one medication-assisted treated psychologist. The facility offers suboxone for people who arrive with a prescription or who are identified as needing medication-assisted treatment.
- Psychiatric services offer individual therapy and group therapy. The facility offers 12 to 15 weeks of individual therapy per request per resident.
- Survey respondents stated that psychology staff was helpful and available when needed.

Education and Programming

- Currently, there are 303 general population residents participating in vocational programming. Of 303 residents, six residents are D.C. Code offenders.
- Multiple residents stated that they were unaware of any programming occurring at Ft. Dix. The CIC did not see any program sign-up materials or signage in the units.

- There are nine First Step Act classes offered. D.C. residents do participate in these classes, but they do not receive credit for the classes.²
- Two respondents who had recently transferred to Ft. Dix indicated that they were programming at another facility amid COVID precautions but had not programmed since arriving at Ft. Dix.
- A respondent who cannot read or write stated that programming was inaccessible.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

FCI Fort Dix currently has 34 First Step Act programs actively operating for the inmate population.

While the BOP encourages all inmates, including DC Superior Court inmates, to participate in First Step Act (FSA) programming, is not the decision-making authority for whether DC Superior Court inmates receive federal time credits for FSA programming. This information is outlined in the Federal Register, Volume 87, No. 12.

During inmate program review meetings, the Unit Team reviews an inmate's needs to make recommendations for programming. However, inmates are responsible for inquiring, signing up, and actively participating in programming for their re-entry needs.

The CIC did not provide specific inmate information [respondent who could not read or write] to FCI Fort Dix staff to review or address this claim. However, all US citizen inmates without a GED or high school diploma are required by law and Program Statement 5350.28, Literacy Program (GED) to participate in GED/Literacy programming for at least 240 hours or until they achieve their GED. The GED/Literacy program is designed to accommodate inmates who cannot read or write. All inmates that meet the criteria are given placement testing and placed into classes appropriately. A Special Learning Needs (SLN) Instructor is on staff at FCI Fort Dix, and a special learning needs classes are available. Additionally, those inmates that may not be appropriate for a SLN class, but who may qualify for accommodations for the GED test based on mental, physical, emotional, or learning disabilities are provided appropriate testing and referrals for such accommodations via the GED Testing Service. The GED/Literacy program and testing is available in both English and Spanish.

Additionally, all inmates are screened for Dyslexia per the First Step Act. Those inmates that meet the threshold of the assessment are provided the opportunity to participate in additional programs to address their needs. However, inmate's participation in these programs are voluntary.

UNICOR

- There are six D.C. residents in custody who are participating in UNICOR.
- Multiple D.C. residents expressed an interest in UNICOR, but their requests were either denied or unanswered.

RDAP

- The RDAP program at Ft. Dix is a 98-bed inpatient drug program. There are 90 residents currently participating.

² The First Step Act offers classes and programs to federal residents in custody. These classes and programs allow residents to earn good time credits to reduce the length of their sentence. D.C. residents do not receive these points because they are not considered federal prisoners, even though they are housed in federal facilities.

Recreation

- Music programs, band room, and recreation are offered to residents by unit for one hour per day. Residents may elect to participate in daily indoor or outdoor recreation. Equipment is sanitized daily.
- All survey respondents confirmed that recreation took place on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays for one hour.
- The CIC staff did not see any signup sheets or signage for the 2022 hobby-craft schedule. A 2020 hobby-craft flyer was posted in resident accessible areas.

Visitation

- Survey respondents stated that the facility is too far from D.C. for family members to come for a one-hour visit.

Re-Entry

- Eight of 21 survey respondents are within 18 months of release.
- There was no list of all available re-entry programs.
- The Re-entry Affairs Coordinator has copy of the Public Defender Service's re-entry navigator. CSOSA also sends resources.
- All residents within 18 months of release undergo a re-entry orientation program. This program connects them with a probation officer and provides three days of classes for re-entry planning. The resident will also learn how about halfway house processes and expectations.
- Of the eight respondents to be released in 18 months, five stated that they have not taken any release preparation programs at Ft. Dix and have not talked with their unit team about release planning. Three of the eight respondents stated that they felt prepared to return to the community.
- Six of the eight respondents received their birth certificate inside of their institutional "jacket" (file).
- Some residents in the SHU are unclear about their projected release to general population since they are less than 90 days from their projected release date. All SHU residents in custody with an upcoming release date said they had not spoken with any staff members about re-entry while in the SHU.

Meals

- Survey respondents stated that the quality of food is poor. Reportedly, they are not provided enough fruits and vegetables, and they receive more cold meals than hot meals.
- All respondents stated that they predominately get food from commissary to supplement for poor food options.

Supplemental Findings

Housing

- General housing units have an approximately 370-person capacity.
- The first floor of the RDAP and UNICOR units are for programming and there is handicap-accessible housing on 1st floor.
- There are eight bunk beds per section of the unit. All residents are required to be dressed in uniform attire.
- Ft. Dix offers an orientation in an Admission and Orientation (A & O) Unit. This unit has eight bunk beds, and residents are housed for two days. Residents are placed in the unit on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, stay for two days, and then are placed in their designated general housing unit. If the unit has a bed space with no mattress on the bed, it is not in use.

Special Housing Unit (SHU)

- The SHU has an examination room. Medical staff performs rounds two to three times daily. Residents can request services during medical rounds in SHU.

Staff

- According to data published by the BOP on September 30, 2021, the inmate to correctional officers ratio at Fort Dix was 14.4 to 1.³

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

The CIC electronically forwarded an official request to conduct a site visit at FCI Fort Dix on May 9, 2022. In that correspondence, the CIC requested the staff-to-inmate ratio, not the correctional officer-to-inmate ratio. Therefore, the documentation provided by FCI Fort Dix reflected a staff-to-inmate ratio of 1 staff to 5.8 inmates.

Medical

- Ft. Dix is a care level 2 facility. Care level 2 residents are serviced at least once a month. Care level 3 or 4 residents are transferred to another facility.
- The institution works with a medical contractor, NAFCARE, who facilitates cardiac services, orthopedics, and podiatry. Ft. Dix has contracted with the agency for five years.
- The closest emergency room is two miles away.
- The medical chief states that there are five doctors at Ft. Dix, multiple mid-level providers, such as physician's assistants and nurse practitioners, dental services, x-ray lab services, and a pharmacy with three pharmacists.
- The dental department at Ft. Dix includes four full-time staff, one dental hygienist, and four contract dental assistants. On average, each dentist serves eight people per day.
- There are three full-time pharmacy staff onsite. Cardiology, gastrologic services, podiatry, urology, and a host of other services are offered through medical. Specialists come into the facility on a regular visit to see residents as scheduled for services. There are X-ray services and labs on site.
- Pill line occurs twice daily, unit by unit. Most residents self-carry medications.

³ The document states Congress find anything below 15:1 unacceptable. As of that publication date, there were no facilities with 15:1 ratio.

Mental Health Services

- Groups offered by psychology services include Anger Management (8-10 weeks), Criminal Thinking (12-15 weeks), and Emotional Self-Regulation (12-15 weeks, currently taking place on Wednesdays at the camp).
- Groups are advertised via resident email, and residents can request a placement on the waiting list.
- Groups occur quarterly with approximately 2-3 groups per cycle and 8-10 residents per group.

Education and Programming

- The education program at Ft. Dix is NCCR accredited.
- The educational program has GED, ESL, and various vocational programs.
- The educational facility has a foreign language library, general leisure library, and a computer area to access the law library.
- Educational classes held one day a week for each unit.
- The designated capacity for classroom participants is 10 residents per class.
- HVAC class started the week of the CIC's visit. Plumbing vocational training began the week before.
- Staff stated that they are finishing CORE, HVAC, electrical, plumbing, masonry, and carpentry classrooms on the East side.
- The goal for GED completions is 47 for the year. Currently, 23 residents have completed the GED this year.
- Classrooms are equipped with tools for various vocational programs.
- In the law library, there are 16 computers (one handicap accessible), two label printers, and approximately two typewriters.
- The CIC staff noted four functional A/C window units in the law library.
- The law library is only accessible on computers in the Education area. On the unit, the computers have the law library and TRULINCS.
- There is a foreign language library with books in Chinese, Korean, and Russian.
- The West side has three general education teachers, two vocational teachers, a test administrator, and special learning teachers.
- There is an on-site college through Mercer County Community College, which awards participants an Associate of Arts degree. This program is postponed due to COVID. Staff hopes to restart the program during Spring 2023.
- The leisure library has set up an interlibrary loan program with the county library. The leisure library purchases books from distributors and receives book donations quarterly from various sources, including local high schools, residents, and the community.

UNICOR

- UNICOR currently has 238 participants, and 285 are needed for current production needs.
- The UNICOR unit can house 369 residents, and 238 are on the unit at this time.
- The UNICOR unit had two English-speaking TV rooms, a Spanish TV room, and multiple rooms with exercise equipment.
- The TV rooms in UNICOR had two wall fans all in working condition and two ceiling fans in working condition.

- On the West side, UNICOR manufactures clothing and textiles. On the East side, the UNICOR facility was a recycling facility. The facility was moved to Schuylkill, so UNICOR is not offered on the East side currently.
- The UNICOR factory utilizes biometric timekeeping. Participants can sign in and out on monitors using their thumbprint.
- UNICOR participants make anywhere between \$0.46/hr to \$1.15/hr. Participants can receive longevity pay at 18 months and 80 months⁴.
- On average, participants work 7.25 hours a day.

RDAP

- The RDAP program has three drug treatment staff and 8 treatment coordinators.

Recreation

- In the recreational facility, there are stationary bikes, ping pong/air hockey, a weight room, a gym, and a foosball table.
- The facility has a full band room and handball courts outside, and residents can take equipment outside.
- Hobby-craft programming offered includes painting, drawing, card making, beading, and crocheting.
- The facility offers certificates to residents to be fitness instructors.

Visitation

- Ft. Dix is utilizing controlled visitation. Each unit now has designated dates for visitation. Previously, visitation was not limited by unit.
- Visitation is limited to 12 total people in the visitation room, including staff. The standard limit is 75.
- Visitation is limited to one hour due to COVID precautions. Previously, visit time could vary depending on the reason for the visit, but could go over multiple hours.

Re-Entry

- Each compound utilizes a network kiosk that provides employment opportunities and re-entry information.
- For residents who are not halfway house eligible, the re-entry affairs coordinator (RAC) and the unit team connect residents to CSOSA.
- Residents can email, file a paper “copout,” or utilize a staff referral to see the RAC.⁵
- RAC attempts to get services at release destination by contacting to agencies to coordinate housing and resources.
- Residents meet with their unit team to obtain IDs and birth certificates.
- Ft. Dix reviews residents for halfway house placement ordinarily 17-19 months prior to their projected release date.
- The Unit Team, which includes the Case Manager and Unit Manager, reviews each resident’s case individually to determine the appropriate halfway house placement for a successful transition into the community. Recommendations for halfway house placement are based on

⁴ Longevity pay involves an incremental pay increase based on the length of time worked in the facility.

⁵ A “cop-out” is an inmate request to staff to make an appointment.

assessments of a resident's need for services, public safety, and the necessity of the Bureau to manage its resident population responsibly.

- Once a resident is deemed appropriate for halfway house placement, the Case Manager completes the halfway house referral packet. Once the Warden approves the halfway house referral packet, it is electronically sent to the Residential Reentry Manager (RRM) Office. The RRM staff reviews the recommendation from the Unit Team and determines halfway house placement based on bedspace availability and resources needed and available in the resident's release area.

Recommendations

- Ft. Dix should perform drastic maintenance on general housing units including installation of working A/C units, removal of black mold, and resident access to appropriate cleaning products to maintain the area.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

FCI Fort Dix was constructed in 1950 and is in Phase I of reconstructing a general population housing unit which is 90% complete. FCI Fort Dix has requested funding through the appropriate national protocol for additional renovations. The Facilities Department continues to monitor all areas and complete repairs, as needed.

FCI Fort Dix inmate housing units, maintains a robust ventilation system that draws air through large vents throughout the building. In effect, the fans draw hot air from inside the building and expels it outside. Ceiling fans installed in each inmate's cell in 2007 as an added comfort measure. Additionally, industrial fans were installed at the end of each floor to move air.

An external audit of FCI Fort Dix's Safety Program was conducted and received the highest rating of Superior. The audit inspected inmate living areas, specifically housing units with no finding of black mold. A daily sanitation program is in place to prevent mildew growth in areas where it may be possible, due to extreme moisture, such as inmate showers and restrooms. FCI Fort Dix provides staff and inmates with EPA registered disinfectant cleaner formulated to kill a broad spectrum of microorganisms. FCI Fort Dix has a sanitation program that allows staff and incarcerated persons to obtain ready-to-use disinfectant on a daily basis for use in institution living and work areas.

FCI Fort Dix has increased the frequency for disinfecting common use surfaces. A schedule for disinfecting was prepared and distributed to inmates and staff. Staff working in the housing units train orderlies and oversee the daily disinfecting.

- Staff should increase communication with residents about operation modifications due to COVID to reduce confusion and friction amongst staff and residents.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

All inmates assigned within Federal Bureau of Prisons have access to Trust Fund Limited Inmate Computer System (TRULINCS). TRULINCS program provide inmates with an alternate means of written communication with the public and institution messages. Inmate notifications regarding revisions to the COVID Matrix for various areas such as: programming, recreation, visiting schedule, food service, and Levels of Operation are published and accessible to the inmate population in English and Spanish on TRULINCS. Unit Managers conduct frequent town hall meetings with the general inmate population on COVID safety protocols, sanitation and distribution of facial coverings (masks).

- Staff should be encouraged to be respectful and responsive to residents' inquiries.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

The CIC did not provide specific information or identify any specific inmate for the BOP to address this claim or any negative interactions between staff and inmates. Inmates are afforded the opportunity to communicate with staff during inmate meals, open house hours, via TRULINCS emails to staff and/or by Inmate Request to Staff forms.

- It is recommended that staff be heavily encouraged to wear their masks given Ft. Dix's COVID level and for the protection of the residents in custody.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

FCI Fort Dix Executive Staff continues to encourage appropriate universal wearing of face coverings by staff and inmates in accordance with CDC guidelines.

- Administrative staff should review the Ft. Dix grievance process, including providing proof of submission and responding to grievances in a timely manner.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

FCI Fort Dix adheres to Program Statement 1330.18, Administrative Remedy Program. Inmates may seek formal review of an issue relating to any aspect of their own confinement. Inmates may inquire with the Unit Team regarding the status of an Administrative Remedy or to request a receipt of the Administrative Remedy filed.

- It is recommended that Ft. Dix increase the number of medical doctors employed at the facility to help manage the chronic care caseload. With increased staff, it is recommended that chronic care patients are seen more than once a year.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

FCI Fort Dix has a full complement of five (5) Medical Doctors allocated by the agencies staffing guidelines. Guidance regarding chronic care patients is outlined in Program Statement 6031.04, Patient Care, Section 15, which states, Chronic Care Clinics (CCCs) are a means for inmates with ongoing medical needs to be tracked and seen by a health care provider at clinically appropriate intervals. A physician will see all inmates assigned to a CCC every 12 months, or more often, if clinically indicated.

- Due to the many vacancies for UNICOR, it is recommended that staff review their acceptance process and allow more residents to participate in the program.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

FCI Fort Dix offers all inmates an opportunity to be employed in UNICOR. All UNICOR hiring procedures are conducted in accordance with Program Statement 8120.03, Work Programs for Inmates - FPI. Inmates are encouraged to obtain a UNICOR application from their Unit Team and submit the application to UNICOR. After the UNICOR application is submitted, inmates are placed on waiting lists for employment.

- It is recommended that programming, specifically hobby-craft, occur on the unit if possible.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

Upon successful completion of the Structure Hobby Craft class, inmates will receive educational credit on their transcript, ability to purchase Special Purchase Orders and participate in Leisure Hobby Craft activities within their units. Per Institutional Supplement 5370.11G, Recreation Programs, hobby craft items are available to inmates who have completed the corresponding Leisure course and are actively participating in Hobby craft. Inmates must adhere to safety and security measures to ensure the prevention of fire hazards while participating in the hobby craft program in the housing units. Failure to adhere to safety standards may result in removal from the hobby craft program in the housing unit.

- When programming is taking place, staff should prioritize communicating all offerings to residents via appropriate signage and announcements.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

During inmate program review meetings, the Unit Team reviews an inmate's needs to make recommendations for programming and advises the inmate of the specific department facilitating the class. However, inmates are responsible for inquiring, signing up, and actively participating in programming for their re-entry needs. FCI Fort Dix has 18 specific departments that maintain various programming opportunities for the inmate population. Each department communicates programming opportunities via TRULINCS, unit bulletin boards, Unit Team Open House, Admission and Orientation (A&O), the Education Library, and during inmate town hall meetings.

- Case management staff should be increased for better efficiency and consistency with handling re-entry matters.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

As of September 11, 2022, all Case Manager vacancies were filled. However, inmates also have access to the Re-Entry Affairs Coordinator to address re-entry needs as well.

- It is recommended that Ft. Dix implement more D.C. specific resources for re-entry. Also, facility staff should ensure that those due for release within 18 months, in SHU and general population, have appropriate resources and are engaging in meetings with their unit team with ample time before release.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

Program Statement 5322.13, Inmate Classification and Program Review, outlines the frequency in which the Unit Team conducts inmate program review meetings with inmates. In accordance with the Second Chance Act of 2007, the Unit Team reviews inmates for Residential Re-Entry Center (RRC), or halfway house placement, 17- 19 months of their projected release date to determine the inmate's re-entry needs. As outlined in Program Statement 5325.07, Release Preparation Program, guidance on Unit Release Preparation and is ordinarily discussed with inmates 11-13 months prior to the inmate's release. Release topics include, but are not limited to, release plans and transportation, conditions of supervision, if applicable, release funds, employment/ housing, disposition of property, and personal identification.

The Re-Entry Affairs Coordinator at FCI Fort Dix plays a vital role in providing re-entry programs, services and information for all inmates who are preparing for release. FCI Fort Dix encourages the CIC or its partner organizations to provide the facility with any additional DC resources for DC offenders to assist staff with ensuring a successful transition back to the District for returning citizens. The DC Navigator booklet is located and accessible in the inmate library located within the Education Department, and can be requested through the Unit Team and Re-Entry Coordinators. All inmates returning or relocating to the District. DC offenders who participate in the Admission and Orientation and Release Orientation Program (ROP) receive a copy of the DC Navigator booklet.

- BOP should provide re-entry resources to those in SHU and general population who are within 6 months of release.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

Program Statement 5322.13, Inmate Classification and Program Review, outlines the frequency in which the Unit Team conducts inmate program review meetings with inmates who have less than one year to serve. During inmate program review meetings, the Unit Team continues to review an inmate's re-entry needs to ensure there has not been a change. In accordance with the Second Chance Act of 2007, the Unit Team reviews inmates for Residential Re-Entry Center (RRC), or halfway house placement, 17-19 months of their projected release date to determine the inmate's re-entry needs. As outlined in Program Statement 5325.07, Release Preparation Program, provides guidance on Unit Release Preparation and is ordinarily discussed with inmates 11-13 months prior to the inmate's release. Release topics include, but are not limited to, release plans and transportation, conditions of supervision, if applicable, release funds, employment/housing, disposition of property, and personal identification.

- FCI Ft. Dix should ensure that each D.C. resident is aware of their right to receive a ballot for voting, and provide access to mail rooms, printers, or resources needed to ensure delivery.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

Reentry Affairs facilitates a presentation on Inmate Voting Rights where the DC Voter Initiative is discussed, upon an inmate's arrival to FCI Fort Dix during the A&O lecture. Re-Entry Affairs Coordinators has provided voter registration information for each DC inmate in accordance with the Executive Order on Promoting Access to Voting, dated March 7, 2021. Additional voting information is accessible on TRULINCS, and upon request to the Re-Entry Affairs Office. Mailed in ballots received at FCI Fort Dix are considered special mail, and inmates receive the ballots from an assigned unit team staff. Staff maintain a tracking log with each inmate's signature verifying delivery of the ballot for the addressee.

- Ft. Dix should check the quality of food at the facility and implement protocols guaranteeing that meals are served at appropriate temperatures.

Comments by the Bureau of Prisons:

All meals are inspected, supervised and checked by staff Cook Supervisors and/or Food Service Administrators, in accordance with Program Statement 4700.06, Food Service Manual, and ServSafe regulations, for proper temperature and quality assurance. If an inmate has an issue with a meal, he may notify the Food Service Supervisor or Associate Warden with oversight of Food Service during the meal for resolution.

