

FCI Beckley Inspection Report



FCI Beckley

(photo by Federal Bureau of Prisons)

**District of Columbia
Corrections Information Council**

April 6, 2018



District of Columbia Corrections Information Council

Charles Thornton, Board Chair
Katharine A. Huffman, Board Member
Phylisa Carter, Board Member
Calvin Woodland Jr., 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 inmates 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 inmates, corrections staff not in leadership, and members of the general public will be kept anonymous and confidential.

DC Corrections Information Council

2901 14th Street, NW
Ground Floor
Washington, DC 20009
Phone: (202) 478-9211
Email: dc.cic@dc.gov
Website: <https://cic.dc.gov/>

Executive Summary

FCI BECKLEY

Dates of Inspection: August 1-2, 2017

Location: Beaver, West Virginia

Distance from DC: 302 miles

Facility Profile

Security Level: Medium

Rated Capacity: 1,127

Total Population: 1,486 (131.9% capacity)

Inmate-to-Staff Ratio: 5.14 : 1

DC Population

DC Population: 70 (4.7% of total population)

Average Age: 35.4 years old

Average Sentence: 152 months

Individuals with Detainers: 16

Major Findings

Staff Behavior. Disrespectful and racist behavior by staff was the largest concern reported to the CIC. Almost all survey respondents identified staff behavior as the most negative aspect of the facility and reported discriminatory treatment due to their status as DC inmates. They reported that staff is unprofessional and frequently make insulting and racist remarks, along with other disrespectful comments. DC inmates also feel that they do not get the same access to programming, jobs, or staff assistance. Several people also reported retaliatory treatment for filing grievances.

Problems with Mail. Six individuals reported to the CIC that they had problems with legal mail, including one report that staff opens legal mail and removes documents relating to filing grievances. Two individuals reported they had issues receiving any mail due to the staff. The facility had recently introduced major restrictions on incoming mail due to concerns about the introduction of drugs.

Access to Grievance and Request Forms. In response to the survey, 13 of 20 people reported that they did not have access to grievance forms, and 10 of 19 reported not having access to request to staff forms. Inmates reported that staff keep the forms in their offices and refuse to provide them to inmates. In addition, six of 15 people reported they did not have access to medical sick call request forms.

UNICOR Factory. FCI Beckley has a factory that produces office chairs for government agencies. Workers can earn job skills, a higher wage, and several types of job certifications. Seven of the 70 workers were from DC. Staff reported that the factory was facing a major downturn in production in the past few years.

Residential Programming Units. FCI Beckley has two units for residential programming:

- The BRAVE Program is designed to help young, newly committed inmates serving long sentences through cognitive-behavioral therapy. FCI Beckley is one of two BOP facilities offering the program, and had 90 participants, including seven from DC.
- The Residential Drug Abuse Program (RDAP) is intended as a comprehensive counseling program and offers up to a year off one's sentence. The 116 participants included one from DC.

Lack of Other Programs. FCI Beckley had few educational or vocational training programs outside the residential unit programs and UNICOR factory. Only two people from DC reported being in academic or vocational programs in the survey, and almost every response reported that getting into these programs is at least somewhat difficult.

Recommendations

Based on the inspection of FCI Beckley, the CIC makes the following recommendations:

1. Provide staff training on professionalism and educate staff members that, while sentencing structure and other concerns of DC inmates might be different, this professionalism is constant.
2. Hire additional medical staff to reduce wait times for medical services and to meet reasonable accommodations, especially during lockdowns.
3. Although response numbers for mental health treatment and programs were small, the CIC still recommends that the facility regularly evaluate wait times for inmate receipt of services and access to recovery programs.
4. In addition to filling dental staff vacancies as planned, explore hiring temporary contract staff again, if possible, to reduce wait times for dental care.
5. Increase staff rounds in the SHU for medical, mental health, religious, and educational staff, including ensure that medical staff performs the required daily rounds
6. Review mail policies to identify and reduce causes for delays and provide staff training on proper mail handling procedures for legal mail and other special mail.
7. Review new restrictions on incoming mail to lessen restrictions and allow for more mail to get through.
8. Increase number of structured recreational opportunities and programs.
9. Increase quality and size of meals. In addition to addressing concerns, this will offset limited food options created by removal of microwaves from units.
10. Provide vegetarian options, including those containing protein, for individuals who do not qualify for the certified religious diet but do not eat certain types of meat.
11. Provide staff training on respecting religious rights and interacting with different faiths.
12. Hire additional education teachers or partner with nearby educational institutions to increase access to educational programs.
13. Hire additional staff to increase access to vocational training programs.
14. Review program enrollment policies to provide greater access to individuals who have a upcoming parole eligibility date but a maximum sentence length that disqualifies them from programs.
15. Make grievance forms (BP-8 through BP-11) available in housing units at all times without inmates having to request the form through staff, and also allow for grievance submissions through the electronic TRULINCS system.
16. Transfer individuals sentenced from DC who will be released back into DC within two years to facilities closer to DC, including providing for at least six to nine months of halfway house time for those eligible.

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I. Introduction

Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) Beckley is a medium security facility located in Beaver, West Virginia, approximately 302 driving miles from DC. The facility was activated in 1995 and has an adjacent satellite prison camp.

The rated capacity of FCI Beckley is 1,127. At the time of the inspection, the inmate population was 1,486, which represents 131.9% capacity. The facility had 73 DC inmates, who are individuals sentenced under the DC Code, comprising 4.9% of the total population. Staff noted that FCI Beckley is the largest medium security FCI in the BOP that is not part of a federal prison complex, even though its population has decreased from around 2,200 to now 1,700 inmates when including the camp population. Staff commented that the lower population has been better for inmates and staff, especially due to less competition and more available space for programming. The inmate-to-staff ratio is 5.14.

In August 2017, the CIC conducted an on-site inspection of the facility and interviewed individuals incarcerated there from DC.¹ Interviewees also completed surveys that contain both comparative rating questions and open-ended response areas. After preparing a draft of the report, the CIC sent it to the BOP for an opportunity to respond. The BOP response is attached at the end of this report.

II. Treatment of DC Population

In interviews and correspondence with individuals incarcerated at FCI Beckley, the behavior of staff towards inmates was nearly unanimously (16 out of 19 survey respondents) identified as the most negative aspect of the facility. In particular, respondents reported that staff at the facility is disrespectful and racist, especially towards individuals from DC. Several individuals commented that the “way they talk to inmates” is “dismissive, disrespectful, and racist” and they are unwilling to help, instead giving the “run-around.” One individual noted that staff members “make up rules as they go along,” while another stated that even staff members who are not disrespectful still do not interfere to “correct injustices” by other staff. A few people also noted that staff treats young inmates even worse. As discussed in the “Safety and Security” section below, 13 out of 20 survey respondents reported that they had been abused, harassed, or threatened by staff, with most reporting insulting or discriminatory remarks related to their status as a DC inmate or their race, ethnicity, or religious beliefs.²

“They [staff] are systematically engaged in a process to make your incarceration as hard as possible.”

In response to the survey, 18 out of 20 individuals reported that staff treats individuals from DC worse than other inmates at the facility (Figure 1), while seven out of 18 reported that the treatment by other inmates towards DC is worse and nine reported that other inmates treat those from DC the same (Figure 2). Respondents identified disrespectful and racist conduct by

“We need help in changing the narrative of our sentence structure and how we are treated.”

¹ Additional information on methodology is available in Appendix A.

² Additional information is available in the “Safety and Security” section on page 22.

staff as the primary issues underlying the treatment of individuals from DC.

Figure 1:
Treatment by Staff
(n = 20)

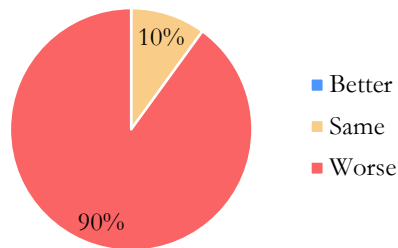
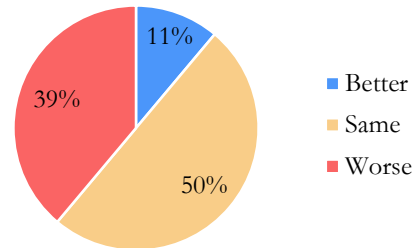


Figure 2:
Treatment by Other Inmates
(n = 18)



In addition, interviewees commented that staff ignore the concerns of those from DC, including concerns about their sentencing structure, which differs from federal sentences. One person reported “constant verbal abuse,” while several others noted retaliatory behavior and an “us versus them” culture by staff towards inmates, especially those from DC. Several people felt that individuals from DC are viewed as “trouble-makers” by staff, who then try to provoke them. One individual noted that the Warden, Captain, and other executive leadership staff are respectful.

In response to the survey question requesting a recommendation for improving conditions at the FCI Beckley, 11 of the 14 respondents provided recommendations about staff behavior or training. In particular, respondents recommended that staff treat them with more respect and without prejudice or bias, and several recommended more job training for staff, including people skills and professionalism. Finally, one person recommended that staff “try to help instead of go against.”

Recommendations

1. Provide staff training on professionalism and educate staff members that, while sentencing structure and other concerns of DC inmates might be different, this professionalism is constant.

III. Health Services

The Health Services Department provides all on-site medical, dental, and mental health care. In the survey, 74% of respondents reported that they did not feel they had adequate access to medical and dental services (14 out of 18 respondents). Half of the respondents reported that they did not have adequate access to mental health services (six out of 12 respondents). In addition, a large number of respondents did not have access to sick call request slips (Figure 21). A majority of respondents reported that Health Services “rarely” responded to sick call requests with 48 hours (Figure 22).

Figure 21:
Access to Sick Call Request Slips
(n = 15)

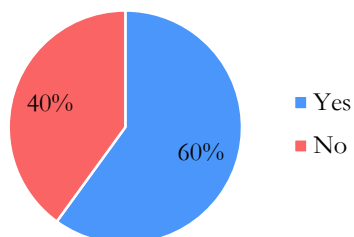
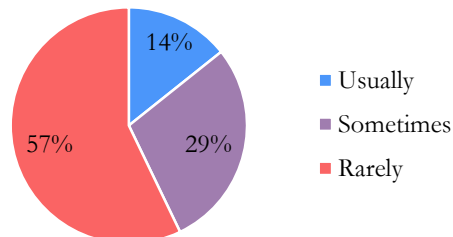


Figure 22:
Response by Health Services Within
48 Hours
(n = 14)



A. Medical Care

FCI Beckley is a Medical Care Level (MCL) 2 facility. A patient designated as MCL 2 is a stable outpatient requiring quarterly clinical evaluation.³ At the time of inspection, 48 DC inmates were MCL 1 and 20 were MCL 2. In addition, 969 inmates were classified as chronic care, including 29 DC inmates. According to BOP policy, chronic care patients require regular appointments and must be seen at least once per year. For all other individuals, physicals and preventative screenings are permitted every three years upon request for those under 50 years old and yearly for those over 50 years old. Staff also reported that all new arrivals receive a physical within 14 days after they come to the facility. Staff explained that they had seen improvements in health outcomes after putting a focus on preventative care in 2012.

Medical staff included two doctors, two nurse practitioners, two physician assistants, six nurses, and a pharmacist, as well as a laboratory technician and X-ray technician who were both contract employees. One nursing position was vacant at the time due to the federal hiring freeze. In total, 25 staff were employed by Health Services at the time of the inspection. Laboratory work is performed at Federal Medical Center (FMC) Butner in North Carolina or at a nearby local hospital to Beckley. The facility uses the Pyxis MedStation for dispensing medication. Staff reported that many patients are on self-carry medication that is not susceptible to abuse. For psychotropic medication, patients must wait in a pill line, with around 20 to 25 waiting in the morning and 75 to 80 for the evening pill line.

In response to the survey, almost two thirds of respondents were “unsatisfied” or “very unsatisfied” with the quality of medical care at the facility, while over a third were “satisfied” and none were “very satisfied” (Figure 23). For wait times, over three quarters were “unsatisfied” or “very unsatisfied” (Figure 24).

³ Example conditions include medication-controlled diabetes, epilepsy, and emphysema. For additional information on Medical Care Levels, see the CIC Info Sheet on “BOP Medical Care Levels,” available at <https://cic.dc.gov/page/cic-info-sheets>.

Figure 23:
Quality of Medical Services
(n = 19)

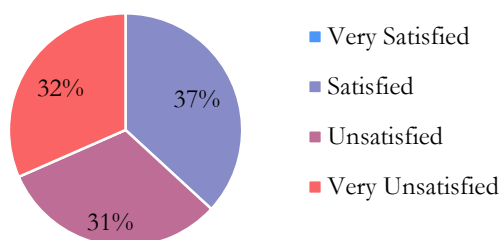
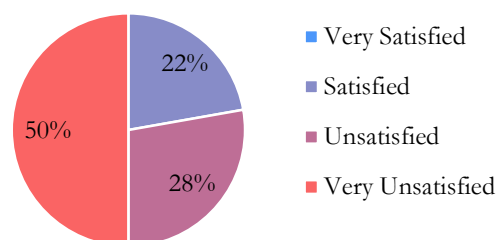


Figure 24:
Wait Times for Medical Services
(n = 18)



Several people commented that they had to wait months to be seen by Medical, including one individual who had to wait over six months to receive an MRI for an untreated injury and reported walking around in pain during that period of time. An inmate said that the medical department has a “serious lack of empathy.” Another inmate noted that medical staff complain that they are overworked. Several individuals also noted difficulty in receiving medication, including two people who stated that medical staff force patients to purchase medication from the commissary rather than treat them during sick calls. Other individuals reported a lack of accommodations for wheelchair accessibility and medically-prescribed diets, especially during lockdowns, despite requests for accommodations.⁴

Recommendations

2. Hire additional medical staff to reduce wait times for medical services and to meet reasonable accommodations, especially during lockdowns.

B. Mental Health Care

FCI Beckley is a Mental Health Care Level (MHCL) 2 facility, which includes patients who require routine outpatient mental health care on an ongoing basis or require brief, crisis-oriented mental health care of significant intensity, such as placement on Suicide Watch.⁵ At the time of the inspection, 20 individuals at the facility were classified as MHCL 2, including one person from DC, and one person not from DC was classified as MHCL 3. Staff reported that these patients are seen monthly and have group meetings each week or every other week. Staff reported 350 face-to-face meetings of clinical contact each month. Weekly groups include classes on grief and trauma, anger management, and criminal thinking. Inmates can also make an electronic request for an appointment or come to the open house that is held for two hours each week.

For individuals housed in the SHU, staff in Psychology Services reported that rounds are conducted two to three times per week, while staff in the SHU reported that psychology staff makes rounds every day. However, a majority of survey respondents reported that psychology staff do not make weekly rounds in the SHU (Figure 7). Psychology staff also reported that the SHU assessments are

⁴ Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 104 Stat. 327, <https://www.eeoc.gov/laws/statutes/ada.cfm>, amended by ADA Amendments Act of 2008, Pub. L. 110-325, <https://www.eeoc.gov/laws/statutes/ada.cfm>.

⁵ Services required for a patient classified as MHCL 2 includes an individualized treatment plan updated at least every 12 months and evidence-based psychosocial interventions on at least a monthly basis. For additional information on Mental Health Care Levels, see the CIC Info Sheet on “BOP Mental Health Care Levels,” available at <https://cic.dc.gov/page/cic-info-sheets>.

conducted monthly and are performed through the cell doors, and that some inmates in the SHU are taken out of their cells for monthly face-to-face therapy.

Psychology Services has 20 dedicated staff, including three psychologists, in addition to the program coordinators for RDAP and BRAVE. Staff reported four vacancies, including a psychologist and an administrative secretary. Medication is prescribed through telepsychiatry, and a local contract psychiatrist is used when needed.

In response to the survey, 11 out of 19 respondents reported that they had a mental health evaluation when they arrived at FCI Beckley, along with four individuals who reported that they did not know. One of those individuals who had an evaluation reported that his diagnosis changed when he arrived, and that he did not require mental health services. Another individual reported that he was on depression medication in DC; at FCI Beckley, he reported that the staff followed up with him for several weeks and that it was a “good experience.”

Survey respondents were generally unsatisfied with the quality of mental health services, with almost two thirds reported they were “unsatisfied” or “very unsatisfied” (Figure 25). For wait times, nearly half were “satisfied,” while the rest were “unsatisfied” or “very unsatisfied” (Figure 26). Several individuals commented that they either needed mental health services or had placed requests for help, but had yet to receive care or even a response. Conversely, the individual who received attention for his depression said that Psychology Services was the best department at the facility.

Figure 25:
Quality of Mental Health Services
(n = 11)

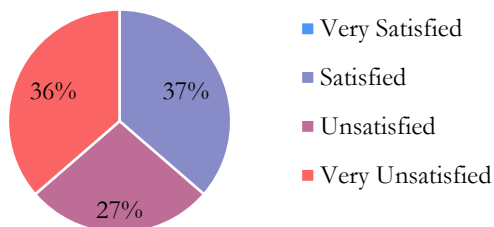
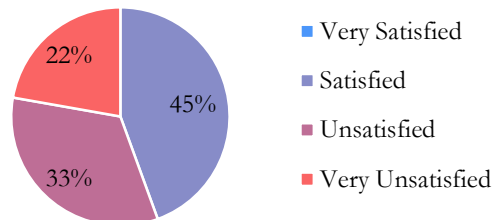


Figure 26:
Wait Times for Mental Health Services
(n = 9)



Mental Health Programs

In response to the survey, two individuals reported that they were in mental health programs and recovery programs. Those two individuals reported that they were “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with the mental health and recovery programs. Those responses are included in the charts below, which also include the responses from individuals who are not currently participating in the programs.

Figure 27:
Satisfaction with Mental Health Programs
(n = 6)

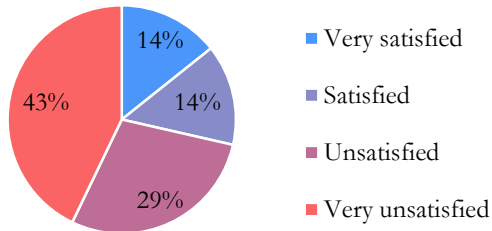


Figure 28:
Difficulty Getting into Mental Health Programs
(n = 8)

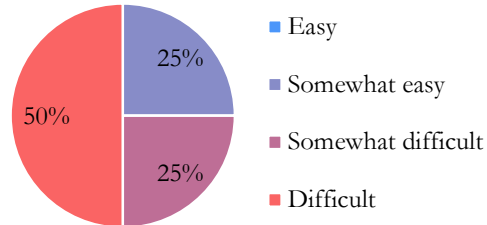


Figure 29:
Satisfaction with Recovery Programs
(n = 7)

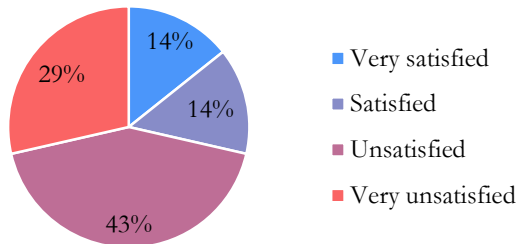
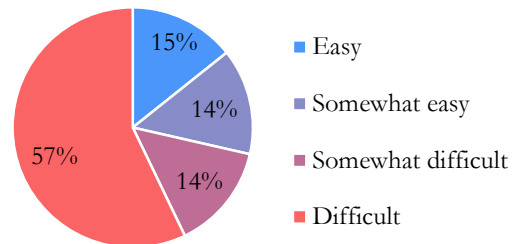


Figure 30:
Difficulty Getting into Recovery Programs
(n = 7)



For both mental health and other recovery programs, survey respondents reported that getting into them is difficult (Figure 30). Only the two active participants said they were “easy” or “somewhat easy” to get into. Similarly, every respondent except for the two active participants were either “unsatisfied” or “very unsatisfied” with the programs (Figure 29).

Suicide Prevention

BOP policy requires facilities to implement suicide prevention practices, and inmates who pose a suicide risk are placed on Suicide Watch, which requires constant visual surveillance.⁶ At the time of the inspection, no inmates were on Suicide Watch at FCI Beckley. Staff reported around three to four suicide attempts per year, including the last attempt in May 2017. No suicides were reported in the year between July 2016 and June 2017.⁷

Staff rely on an Inmate Companion Program to maintain constant surveillance of patients on Suicide Watch. Staff reported 27 inmate companions, including some from DC. Inmate companions receive training six times per year, including four-hour sessions twice a year and an additional meeting each quarter. Staff explained that eight hours of annual training is required by BOP policy, and inmates at FCI Beckley receive around twelve hours. Suicide Watch shifts are three hours, and inmate companions check in with staff every 30 minutes. Staff can also monitor the Suicide Watch cell by camera.

⁶ Federal Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Department of Justice, Program Statement No. 5324.08, Suicide Prevention Program (Apr. 5, 2007), https://www.bop.gov/policy/progstat/5324_008.pdf.

⁷ See the “Significant Incident Reports” table in Appendix B.

Recommendations

3. Although response numbers for mental health treatment and programs were small, the CIC still recommends that the facility regularly evaluate wait times for inmate receipt of services and access to recovery programs.

C. Dental Care

Dental care is provided on-site at FCI Beckley. Staff includes two dentists, one dental hygienist, and one dental assistant. During the inspection, staff reported that an additional assistant would be starting soon. During 2014, the facility had only one dentist, who was a contract employee, and staff reported that the number of patients who were waiting for care at that time is still affecting wait times for dental care, even after the hiring of two full-time dentists. The wait time for cleanings is about ten months and the wait time for fillings is one to two years. The hygienist also has to sometimes fill in as an assistant on surgeries since surgeries always require an assistant present, which also affects wait times.

Emergencies are seen every day except Wednesday, with about three to six patients seen for emergency dental issues each day. Ordinary sick calls are handled during the morning, and a dental open house is held on Tuesdays for patients to come and request dental care. Patients are usually sent out for specialty procedures, although staff noted that contract dentists are also brought into the facility. For dentures, a patient must have eight posterior teeth missing and at least a three year sentence with at least six months remaining in order to complete the procedure. As of July 2016, the Regional Office must approve all requests for dentures or partials, with patients put onto a BOP-wide waiting list.

In response to the survey, the wait times for dental care were the most serious concern, with over two thirds of respondents reporting they are “very unsatisfied” with wait times (11 out of 16) and one quarter “unsatisfied” (4 out of 16), with only one respondent “satisfied” (Figure 32). One individual noted that he had been waiting over a year to get his teeth cleaned since submitting his request.

Figure 31:
Quality of Dental Services
(n = 18)

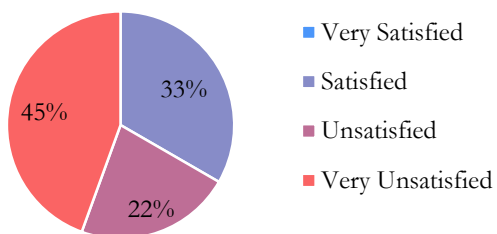
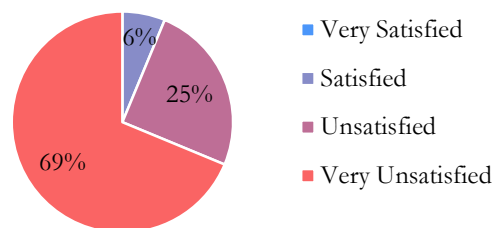


Figure 32:
Wait Times for Dental Services
(n = 16)



Nearly half of respondents were “very unsatisfied” with the quality of dental care, and a third were “satisfied” (Figure 31). One person reported that he never received an initial assessment to determine whether he needed dental care.

Recommendations

4. In addition to filling dental staff vacancies as planned, explore hiring temporary contract staff again, if possible, to reduce wait times for dental care.

IV. Living Conditions

A. Housing

At FCI Beckley, housing units consist of the general population units as well as a Special Housing Unit (SHU) for individuals who cannot be housed in the general population or face disciplinary punishment. One of the general population units is designated for the Residential Drug Abuse Program (RDAP), and another is designated for the Bureau Rehabilitation and Values Enhancement (BRAVE) Program. All of the housing units have a 128-bed capacity and the same layout, except for the SHU. The yard between the housing units has over 20 trees.

During the morning of the inspection, staff explained that the facility had been on a “fog restriction” due to a high level of fog from the surrounding mountains, which delayed the morning count. During the fog restriction, the facility stays on lockdown, with all inmates confined to their units. In response to the survey, one individual reported the frequent lockdowns to be the most negative aspect of the facility. The facility reported four lockdowns between July 2016 and June 2017.⁸

General Population Units

In response to the CIC survey, DC inmates at FCI Beckley were generally satisfied with the cleanliness of their units (Figure 3), and most reported that they were able to receive several basic necessities of personal hygiene (Figure 4). Two people commented that the cleaning chemicals are watered down, which makes them ineffective.

Figure 3:
Cleanliness of Unit
(n = 19)

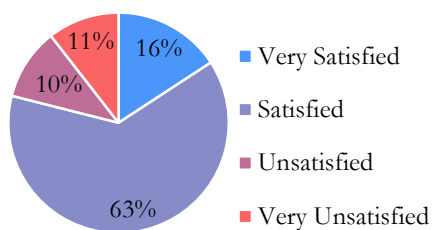
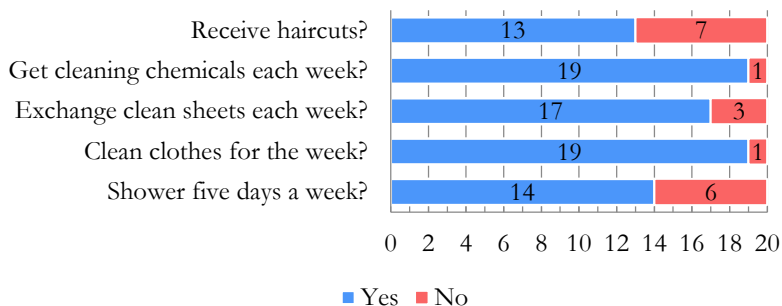


Figure 4:
Personal Hygiene
(n = 20)



Residential Drug Abuse Program (RDAP) Unit

RDAP is a voluntary treatment program available to inmates with a documented alcohol or substance abuse problem.⁹ The program provides counseling and cognitive-behavioral therapy through three stages—residential treatment program, follow-up treatment, and community-based treatment. During the residential treatment, participants live on a separate unit for at least nine months and complete a minimum of 500 hours of programming, with a standardized Follow-Up

⁸ See the “Significant Incident Reports” table in Appendix B.

⁹ Federal Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Department of Justice, Program Statement No. 5330.11, CN-1, Psychology Treatment Programs (Apr. 25, 2016), <https://www.bop.gov/policy/progstat/5330.11.pdf>; Federal Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Department of Justice, Program Statement No. 5310.17, Psychology Services Manual (Aug. 25, 2016), https://www.bop.gov/policy/progstat/5310_017.pdf.

Treatment protocol. Participants remain in Follow-Up Treatment for 12 months or until transferred to a Residential Reentry Center (RRC). The final component of RDAP is the Community Transitional Drug Abuse Treatment (TDAT), which usually occurs during a 120-day placement at an RRC. Inmates who successfully complete RDAP may qualify for up to a year of sentence reduction, and a facility may also offer its own incentives.

At the time of inspection, the RDAP Unit at FCI Beckley had 116 participants, including one from DC, as well as around six to eight mentors who had completed the residential component and volunteered to stay. Staff reported that their goal is 120 active participants in the unit, with eight beds reserved for mentors. The waiting list has around 60 individuals on it, and the head of the unit reported that he interviews new applicants on a constant basis. Around two participants per month are forced to leave the program due to behavior issues or rule violations.

Staffing on the unit includes five drug treatment specialists, an RDAP coordinator, and an individual who assists with follow-up services. The unit also has four dayrooms for programming and leisure activities, along with various murals on the walls.

During the inspection, staff reported that the quality of the pre-sentence investigation report (PSI) for DC inmates can impair their eligibility for RDAP because they may underreport drug use intensity on the report and not have enough evidence of prior drug addition to qualify for RDAP. A detainee, or pending charge in another jurisdiction, also disqualifies individuals from participation because they would not be able to complete final component at the RRC. In response to the survey, one individual commented that RDAP was the most positive aspect of the facility, especially since the staff is respectful.

Bureau Rehabilitation and Values Enhancement (BRAVE) Program Unit

The BRAVE Program is a voluntary, cognitive-behavioral residential rehabilitation program for medium-security inmates designed to address the needs of young, newly committed inmates serving long sentences.¹⁰ Treatment occurs in a unit solely dedicated to the program for a total of 350 hours over a six month period with progress reviews every 60 days. The program consists of three phases: Orientation Phase, Core Treatment Phase, and Transition Phase. Ordinarily, the Orientation Phase lasts one month, the Core Treatment Phase lasts four months, and the Transition Phase lasts one month. Inmates who participate in the program may receive “achievement awards,” which include financial rewards for time lost from work—generally up to \$40—and incentives particular to the individual institution. BRAVE was started in 1998¹¹ and is currently only available at FCI Beckley and FCI Victorville Medium II.

At FCI Beckley, treatment includes six months of programming through cognitive behavioral therapy and a “modified therapeutic community” that meets in the morning and fosters positive inmate-to-inmate interaction. Participants are incentivized to stay in the program to avoid being sent to a United States Penitentiary (USP), which are high security level institutions. Staff reported that the failure rate in the program is fairly high at around 30% to 40%.

¹⁰ The BRAVE program is designed for inmates who are 32 years old or younger, have a sentence of at least 60 months, and have not previously served a sentence under BOP commitment. Inmates are placed directly on the Brave Program Treatment Unit upon arrival at an institution. Other inmates who have demonstrated poor institutional adjustment may also be allowed to participate at the Program Coordinator’s discretion. Federal Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Department of Justice, Program Statement No. 5330.11, CN-1, Psychology Treatment Programs (Apr. 25, 2016), <https://www.bop.gov/policy/progstat/5330.11.pdf>.

¹¹ Staff reported that BRAVE was started in response to the closure of the Lorton Reformatory, with Beckley being an institution that was expected to absorb many DC inmates.

At the time of inspection, the BRAVE Program had 90 active participants, including seven individuals from DC. Staff reported a goal of 100 participants. In addition, four mentors who had completed the program had volunteered to stay on the unit. Staffing includes five treatment specialists and a psychologist who is the BRAVE Program Coordinator. More than ten graffiti-style murals are on the walls, and the unit also contains exercise equipment. In response to the survey, one individual commented that the BRAVE Program is the most positive aspect of the facility.

Special Housing Unit (SHU)

The Special Housing Unit (SHU), often referred to as segregated housing, is designed to securely separate inmates from the general inmate population. In the BOP, inmates placed in SHU are ordinarily housed in two-person cells and are confined to their cells for 23 to 24 hours a day. Inmates in the SHU are classified as under either disciplinary segregation or administrative detention.¹²

At the time of the inspection, 121 individuals were in the SHU, including five from DC, out of a total capacity of 143. Four individuals in the SHU were diagnosed with a mental health issue, but none were from DC. Disciplinary segregation had five total inmates in it and one person from DC. Administrative detention included 105 total individuals, including 13 who were under investigation for disciplinary action, 12 in protective custody, and 41 who were pending transfer. One DC inmate was in protective custody, and three DC inmates were awaiting disciplinary action. No individuals had been in the SHU for over one year.

Survey respondents also reported the number of times they had been placed in the SHU (Figure 5 and the length of time (Figure 6).

¹² Disciplinary segregation is imposed as a sanction for violations of BOP rules and regulations. Administrative detention is a status which removes an inmate from general population when deemed necessary to ensure the safety, security, and orderly operation of the facility or to protect the public. According to BOP policy, an inmate may be placed in administrative detention for the following reasons:

- a) Pending Classification or Reclassification (new commitment pending classification or under review for reclassification);
- b) Investigation (under investigation or awaiting a hearing for possibly violating BOP regulation or criminal law);
- c) Holdover Status (during transfer period);
- d) Transfer (pending transfer to another institution or location);
- e) Protection Cases (inmate requested or staff determined, for inmate's own protection); or
- f) Post-Disciplinary Detention (disciplinary segregation status ended, but return to general population would threaten public safety or the safety, security, or orderly operation of the facility).

Federal Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Department of Justice, Program Statement No. 5270.11, Special Housing Units (Nov. 23, 2016), <https://www.bop.gov/policy/progstat/5270.11.pdf>.

Figure 5:
Number of Times Placed in SHU
(n = 20)

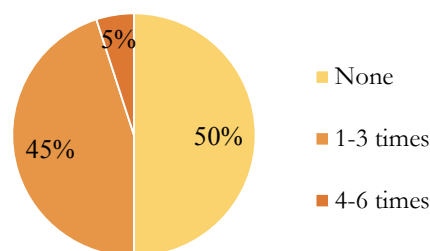
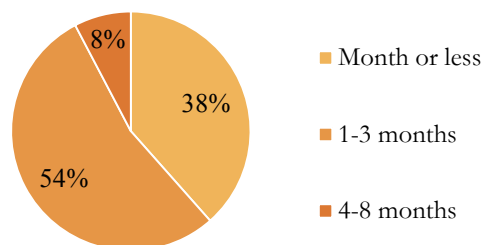


Figure 6:
Length of Time in SHU
(n = 13)



At FCI Beckley, staff in the SHU reported that medical staff conducts rounds usually twice a day and psychology staff once a day. Staff in Psychology Services reported that they make rounds two to three times per week. Most respondents to the survey reported that medical and mental health staff do not make rounds every week (Figure 7). In addition, staff reported that Religious Services makes rounds “often,” the Education Department exchanges books on Thursday, and commissary is available once a week, with less items than for general population units. Similar to medical and mental health staff, survey respondents reported that the Education Department and Chaplain for Religious Services also do not make weekly rounds. Finally, staff reported that staff from every department meets together every Wednesday to discuss the status of those in the SHU.

Figure 7:
Weekly Rounds Conducted
(n = 13)

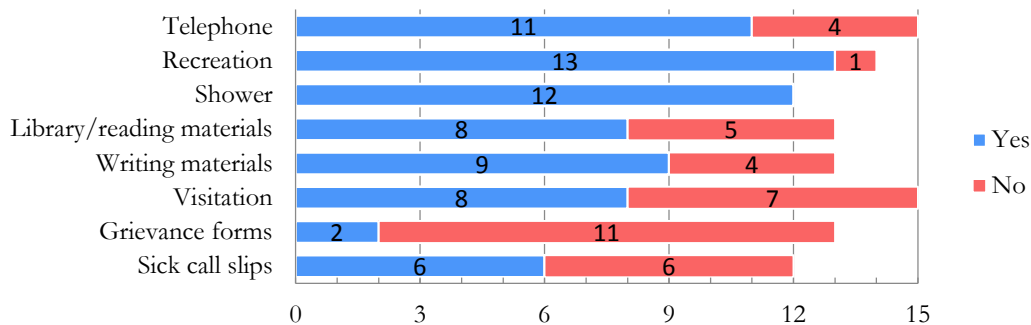


Staff reported that inmates can access the law library on a daily basis. Visitation is conducted through video screens, and SHU inmates are permitted to make one phone call every 30 days. Inmates can participate in educational programming through self-study packets. Staff expressed an interest in creating a loop system for playing educational materials through the radio. The SHU is also air conditioned.

In response to the survey, a majority of inmates were able to access most services in the SHU (Figure 8). However, similar to general population units, respondents reported that they were not able to access grievance forms.¹³ Almost half of respondents also reported a lack of access to sick call slips and visitation. Several individuals commented that they never saw medical or mental health staff make rounds when they were in the SHU.

¹³ Additional information is available in the “Administrative Remedy Program” section on page 30.

Figure 8:
Access to Services in SHU
(n = 15)

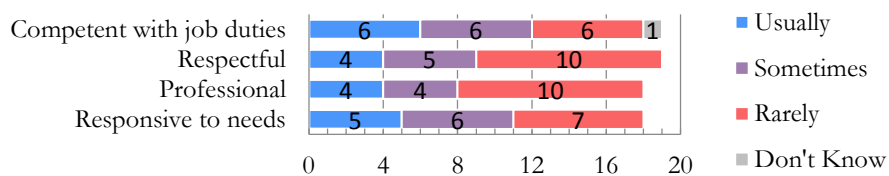


The most frequent issue raised by individuals in the survey comments was that the SHU is dirty. Several people also discussed disrespectful and retaliatory staff. In addition, a few people commented on a lack of medical care, including the nurse not stopping at cells during rounds for individuals who need help and not being able to receive medication. Several people also reported that staff throws away commissary items when an individual is sent to the SHU, and may also throw away the cellmate's property.

Unit Staffing

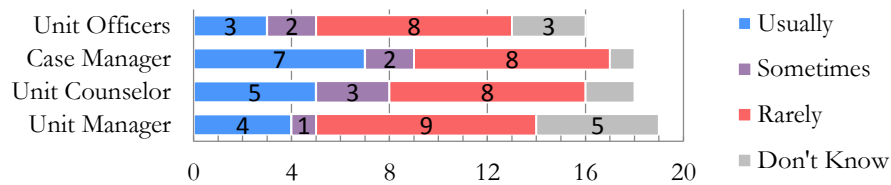
The CIC received generally mixed feedback from about the unit staff at FCI Beckley (Figure 9). More than half of respondents indicated that housing unit officers are “rarely” respectful or professional, while a majority reported that the officers are “usually” or “sometimes” competent and responsive.

Figure 9:
Feedback on Housing Unit Officers
(n = 19)



DC inmates were also asked how often their unit managers, case managers, and unit counselors are helpful. Case managers received the most positive feedback, although almost half of respondents indicated that they were “rarely” helpful (Figure 10). One individual noted that staff are less helpful towards individuals from DC.

Figure 10:
Helpfulness of Housing Unit Officers by Position
(n = 19)



In comments to the survey, several people reported that staff members are disrespectful and racist, and are especially unwilling to help individuals from DC.¹⁴ One individual commented that “Certain staff members are overly disrespectful here for no apparent reason, and getting help here from staff is really, really rare.”

Recommendations

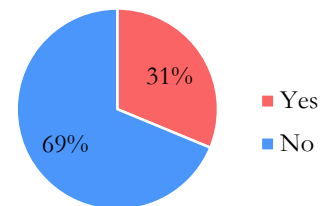
5. Increase staff rounds in the SHU for medical, mental health, religious, and educational staff, including ensure that medical staff performs the required daily rounds.¹⁵

B. Visitation

For general population units, visitation is available Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, between 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM, with no new visitors accepted after 2:00 PM. For all individuals in the SHU, visitation is available on Monday during three two-hour time slots between 8:15 AM and 2:55 PM. Visitation for general population units is contact, but visitation for individuals in the SHU is conducted through video visitation, with the inmate remaining in a cell in the SHU.

Around one third of the survey respondents from DC reported problems receiving visits (Figure 11). The most common reason for problems receiving visits was the distance for visitors (Figure 12), although one individual noted positively that the facility is closer than many other BOP facilities. A few individuals also reported issues with the visitor approval process, the use of the ion spectrometry device (ION Scan) that checks for drugs, and facility lockdowns preventing visits. In comments, a few individuals reported that staff members are disrespectful to family members and that some make inappropriate sexual advances towards their family members.

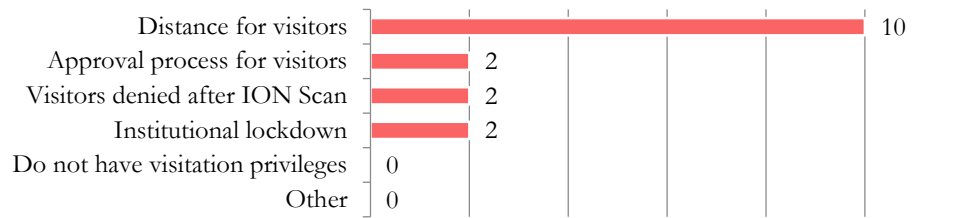
Figure 11:
Problems Receiving Visits
(n = 16)



¹⁴ For additional information, see the “Treatment of DC Population” section on page 5.

¹⁵ Federal Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Department of Justice, Program Statement No. 5270.11, Special Housing Units (Nov. 23, 2016), <https://www.bop.gov/policy/progstat/5270.11.pdf>.

Figure 12:
Reasons for Problems Receiving Visits
(n = 11)



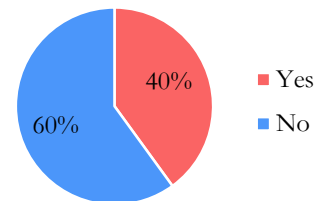
C. Communication

Mail Correspondence

FCI Beckley instituted new mail restrictions in June 2017 in response to two staff assaults that they believe are connected with illicit substances. Restrictions include no cards, colored envelopes, colored paper, use of crayons or markers, or anything that has an odor or discoloration.¹⁶ Staff explained that the BOP is still working on an agency-wide policy. One person from DC noted that he was unable to receive any Fathers' Day cards from his children or family because of the ban on any cards coming into the facility. Two other individuals reported they are having trouble receiving any mail due to staff.

In response to the survey, six individuals reported that they had problems sending or receiving legal mail. One individual reported specifically that staff opens legal mail and will take out documents related to administrative remedy appeals.

Figure 13:
Problems Sending or Receiving Legal Mail
(n = 15)

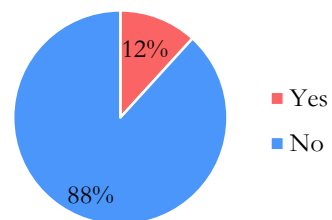


Telephone Usage

The cost for a 15-minute long-distance phone call is \$3.15. Inmates are allotted 300 minutes per month of calling time, unless on phone restrictions due to disciplinary action. Phones are located on the housing units. Calls are automatically terminated at the 15-minute limit, and inmates must wait 45 minutes before placing another call. Inmates must contact their counselor to arrange an unmonitored call with their attorney.

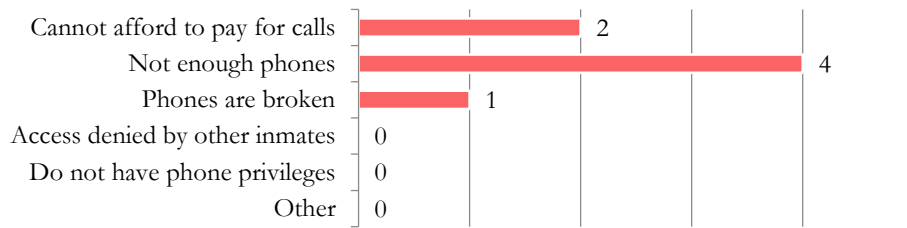
Most individuals who responded to the survey reported that they did not have problems accessing the telephone (Figure 14). A lack of phones was a reason given for problems accessing the telephone, as well as the cost of phone calls and phones that are broken (Figure 15).

Figure 14:
Problems Accessing the Telephone
(n = 17)



¹⁶ See Appendix D for a copy of a bulletin posted in the facility providing notice to inmates about the mail changes

Figure 15:
Reasons for Problems Accessing the Telephone
(n = 5)



Email Access

All general population inmates have access to email through CorrLinks, the email server on the TRULINCS software platform used in BOP facilities. Funding for TRULINCS is provided entirely by the Inmate Trust Fund, which is maintained by profits from inmate purchases of commissary products, telephone services, and fees for use of TRULINCS. The cost to use CorrLinks is \$0.05 per minute.

Recommendations

6. Review mail policies to identify and reduce causes for delays and provide staff training on proper mail handling procedures for legal mail and other special mail.
7. Review new restrictions on incoming mail to lessen restrictions and allow for more mail to get through.

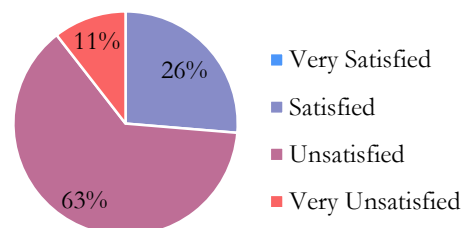
D. Recreation

The Recreation Department is open for 14 hours on weekdays and 12 hours on weekends. Staff includes eight recreation specialists. The department offers classes in fitness, health and wellness, diabetes, nutrition, exercise, yoga, and hobby craft. Inmates assist in teaching the hobby craft classes and sometimes lead them. Available hobby crafts include ceramics, drawing, leather, and painting. Inmate may mail complete crafts to approved recipients.

The outdoor recreation area has several fields, a gravel track, and an exercise area with pull-up bars and other equipment. Two softball fields are available as well as a multipurpose field for flag football and soccer. Other available activities include basketball, bocce ball, handball, horseshoes, and volleyball. When enough inmates participate, the facility also offers intramural leagues for flag football, basketball, and volleyball.

In the survey, nearly three quarters of respondents reported they were “unsatisfied” or “very unsatisfied” with recreation programs (Figure 16). As one person explained, for recreation, “you go outside, that’s it.” Others noted that the facility does not offer proper workout equipment or recreation programs such as music classes. One person commented that the “split yard,” where only half the housing units can use the yard at a time,

Figure 16:
Satisfaction with Recreation
Programs
(n = 19)



causes less time for recreation, and recommended that recreation times be extended.

Recommendations

8. Increase number of structured recreational opportunities and programs.

E. Library

The library at FCI Beckley has around 5,000 to 8,000 books available, according to staff. Inmates also have access to an interlibrary loan with the nearby public library in the City of Beckley. Individuals who borrow books have due dates and can renew books regularly the same as at a public library. Several computers are also available in the library. Copying and printing is available for \$0.10 per page.

The library includes a career resource center, which contains resource sheets – including CSOSA reentry resource packets for DC - and books on one wall. On the computers, individuals can access additional resources related to reentry, including employment resources as well as material provided by the FairShake Reentry Resource Center, a national nonprofit organization.

The library also includes a law library room, where inmates can do legal research. The library has 11 computers available for use, with federal and DC case law and other information installed on them.

F. Meals

As reported in April 2018, Food Services spends \$3.20 per day on meals for each inmate. Staff includes 19 BOP employees and 245 inmate employees, including nine from DC. The Warden and other staff stand “mainline” (next to the main serving line) to answer questions and concerns at each meal time.

In response to the survey, a majority of individuals were either “unsatisfied” or “very unsatisfied” with the quality and quantity of meals (Figure 17 and Figure 18). Several people reported that the food is served cold. Regarding the size of the meals, many people reported that the portions are small, and a few reported that the staff tells servers to cut portions in half or shake extra portions off the serving spoon before serving it. In addition, the CIC received several complaints from individuals whose medical or religious diet restrictions were not being met.¹⁷ Several individuals also complained about the new BOP policy to no longer replace broken microwaves in the housing units, which limits their ability to supplement the facility-provided meals with food from commissary.

Figure 17:
Quality of Meals
(n = 20)

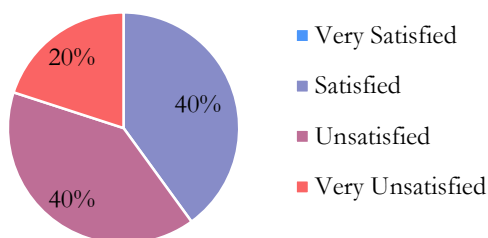
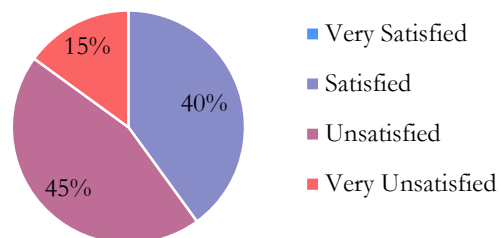


Figure 18:
Quantity of Meals
(n = 20)



¹⁷ Additional information is available in the “Religious Services” and “Medical Care” sections on pages 14 and 15, respectively.

Recommendations

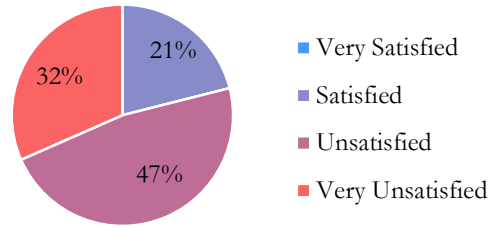
9. Increase quality and size of meals. In addition to addressing concerns, this will offset limited food options created by removal of microwaves from units.

G. Commissary

Each inmate in general population is allowed to make purchases at the commissary once per week, with a maximum spending limit of \$340 per month. Inmates in the SHU have access to a limited version of the standard commissary list at the facility. As per BOP policy, all products are marked up 30%, except for religious items. Inmates may email requests to staff to provide input on what the commissary sells.

One individual explained that the monthly spending limit is split in half to allow for spending \$170 every two weeks. In response to the survey, 79% of respondents reported they were “unsatisfied” or “very unsatisfied” with commissary (Figure 19). People also commented that the commissary frequently runs out of several items, and that inmates are forced to purchase older items before the facility will order new items.

Figure 19:
Satisfaction with Commissary
(n = 19)

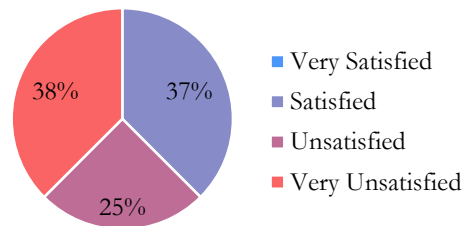


H. Religious Services

Religious Services is led by a head chaplain and provides for inmates’ general religious needs, such as holding weekly faith services. The department is also responsible for notifying inmates of a family death as well as determining whether an inmate receives a certified religious diet.

In the survey, almost two third of respondents were “unsatisfied” or “very unsatisfied” with religious programs, with the rest reported they were “satisfied” (Figure 20). In comments, several individuals reported that the head chaplain, facility administration, and other staff did not respect religious rights. Some inmates were unable to receive the religious diet option, and reported that they cannot eat the regularly served food on days that the facility serves pork, which can be multiple times per month.

Figure 20:
Satisfaction with Religious Programs
(n = 17)



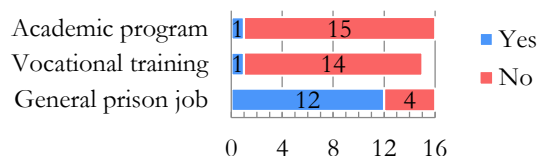
Recommendations

10. Provide vegetarian options, including those containing protein, for individuals who do not qualify for the certified religious diet but do not eat certain types of meat.
11. Provide staff training on respecting religious rights and interacting with different faiths.

V. Education, Programming, and Employment

During the inspection, staff emphasized the value of programming. However, in response to the survey, while most surveyed DC individuals reported having a general prison job, almost no one participated in academic or vocational programs (Figure 33). The difficulty of getting into educational and vocational programming was a major concern expressed by these inmates. Four individuals commented that the educational and vocational programming used to be the most positive aspect of the facility, but that the programs are now gone, such as college classes and most VT classes. Two individuals recommended that additional education and skillful programming be offered.

Figure 33:
Participation in Education and Programming
(n = 16)



A. Education

The BOP requires that all inmates who enter BOP custody without a GED or high school diploma enroll in education classes.¹⁸ All facilities are required to offer three education curriculum levels (K-5, pre-GED, and GED) as well as English for a Second Language (ESL) classes. Adult Continuing Education (ACE) classes are available with fellow inmates as teachers.

At the time of the inspection, 12 DC inmates were enrolled in GED classes, with 16 on the waiting list. One DC inmate was enrolled in pre-GED classes. In the 12 months prior to the inspection, 12 DC inmates had completed the GED program.

Figure 34:
Satisfaction with Academic Programs
(n = 8)

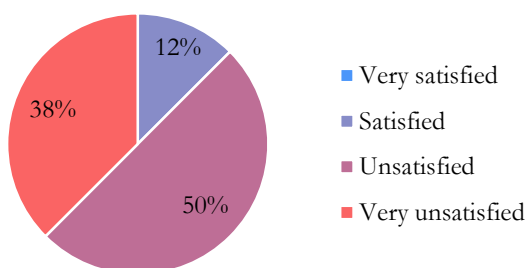
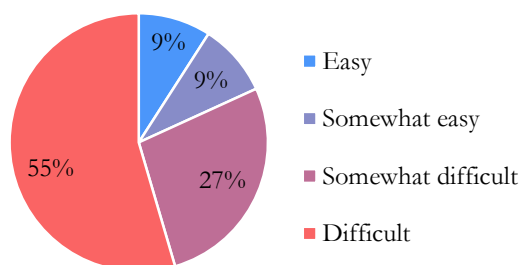


Figure 35:
Difficulty Getting into Academic Programs
(n = 11)



At FCI Beckley, the Education Department has 11 staff, including ten teachers. One position for a vocational training instructor was vacant at the time of the inspection. The department holds two job fairs each year and the events include mock interviews for participants. In response to the survey, one individual noted that the educational programs are outdated, stating that they “are more situated for a twentieth century economy, instead of the digital economy.” Almost all respondents

¹⁸ Federal Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Department of Justice, Program Statement No. 5350.28, Literacy Program (GED Standard) (Dec. 1, 2003), https://www.bop.gov/policy/progstat/5350_028.pdf. Inmates are required to participate in 240 hours of instruction towards their GED before they are permitted to withdraw from the programming. To be exempt from the GED requirement, an inmate must demonstrate within 60 days of arrival that he has a high school diploma or GED. Inmates who are not exempt are tested using the Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE), which allows for placement in an appropriate class level.

reported that they were “unsatisfied” or “very unsatisfied” with the academic programs at FCI Beckley (Figure 34) and that getting into the programs was “difficult” or “somewhat difficult” (Figure 35).

Recommendations

12. Hire additional education teachers or partner with nearby educational institutions to increase access to educational programs.

B. Vocational Training

FCI Beckley offers only limited vocational training (VT) opportunities, and has recently ended several classes. At the time of the inspection, a contract VT instructor was teaching HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) and electrical classes for apprenticeship, journeyman, and master licenses through New River Community and Technical College. Classes are held four days a week, and the certification contains the name of the college and does not mention the prison. During the inspection, staff reported that a VT instructor had retired recently. He had taught masonry, electrical, and HVAC classes, and enrollment in classes became more limited after he left.

Staff reported that no DC inmates were enrolled in VT programs and five DC inmates were on waiting lists at the time of the inspection. In the survey, several people from DC noted that the facility has shut down most VT programs and that the waiting lists continued to increase for programs. Every respondent who provided an answer reported that it was “difficult” or “somewhat difficult” to get into VT programs (Figure 37). Several people from DC reported that DC inmates have to wait longer than other inmates at the facility to get into VT programs.

Figure 36:
Satisfaction with VT Programs
(n = 11)

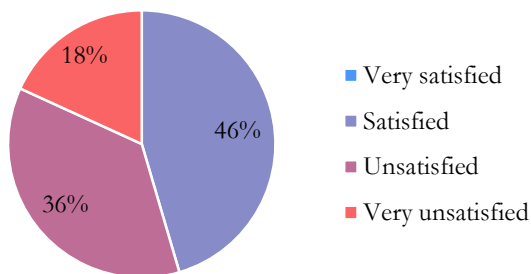
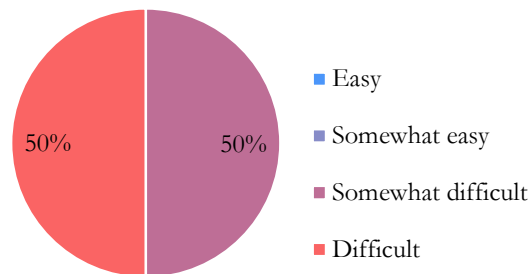


Figure 37:
Difficulty Getting into VT Programs
(n = 14)



Individuals who had previously taken VT programs were generally split in their satisfaction (Figure 36). Some commented that they believed the facility discriminates specifically against people sentenced from DC and also against non-White individuals. Two other individuals reported that the “back number” of their sentences (the maximum sentence length for an indeterminate sentence) prevented them from being eligible for certain classes and programs.¹⁹ Staff stated during the closeout session that they would work to find a fix for back numbers.

Recommendations

13. Hire additional staff to increase access to vocational training programs.

¹⁹ This issue is unique to individuals convicted in DC of an offense that occurred prior to August 2000, who had a short-term and a long-term sentence date (i.e. “back number”) as parts of their sentences.

14. Review program enrollment policies to provide greater access to individuals who have a upcoming parole eligibility date but a maximum sentence length that disqualifies them from programs.

C. Employment

In response to the CIC survey, most individuals indicated that they had a current general prison job. At the time of the inspection, staff informed the CIC that 59 DC inmates were employed.

Figure 38:
Satisfaction with Prison Job
(n = 14)

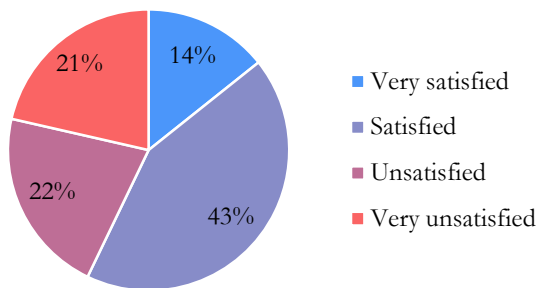
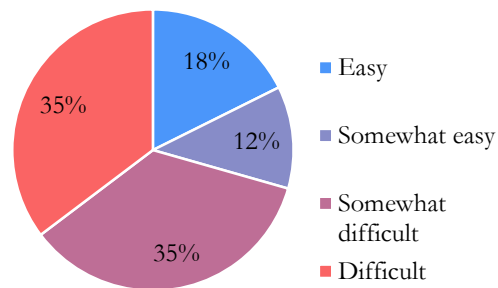


Figure 39:
Difficulty Getting into Prison Job
(n = 17)



Six out of 14 respondents reported that they were “satisfied” with their prison job, while another six reported they were “unsatisfied” or “very unsatisfied” (Figure 38). Most individuals felt it was difficult to get a general prison job, with 14 out of 17 respondents reporting it is “difficult” or “somewhat difficult” (Figure 39).

UNICOR

Federal Prison Industries, also known as by its trade name UNICOR, is government-owned corporation that employs inmates in a factor setting to manufacture products and provide services to the government and private sector.

The UNICOR factory at FCI Beckley produces 23 types of office chairs for federal government agencies. The factory employs 70 inmates, including seven from DC; 270 inmates are on the waiting list, including 16 from DC. In addition to a general waiting list, employment is prioritized for those who have prior experience, have a release date within three years, are on restitution or financial repayment plans, or are veterans. Wages range from \$0.23 to \$1.15 per hour. A premium rate of \$1.38 is paid to workers who assist others with training. The facility reported that due to recent budget issues in the federal government, the factory was facing a downturn in production, from around 8,000 chairs per month in 2016 to 2,000 per month in 2017. The factory does not operate during lockdowns.

Employees may apply for the opportunity to earn a forklift operator license or a quality assurance certification from the American Society of Quality (ASQ). The ASQ certification is a pilot program that started at FCI Beckley and has spread to ten other BOP institutions, according to staff. Individuals who pass the certification test receive lifetime recognition by the ASQ. The program runs several times a year with 10 participants at a time. Staff reported that 20 applicants interviewed for the last session, and six of them recently passed the certification test.

VI. Safety and Security

Between July 2016 and June 2017, the facility reported one inmate death from natural causes, and no suicides or homicides.²⁰ During that time, the facility reported 23 assaults against an inmate, including three with weapons, and 10 assaults on staff, including one with a weapon. The facility also reported using chemicals, such as pepper spray, a total of 15 times.

A. Institutional Safety

In response to the survey, most individuals reported that they had been abused, harassed, or threatened by staff (13 out of 20), although less than half reported it to the facility (Figure 40). Almost all staff treatment reported to the CIC by respondents was insulting or discriminatory remarks related to their status as a DC inmate or their race, ethnicity, or religious beliefs (Figure 41). In addition, one individual commented that he fears for his life because of the staff since he never knows their mood. Another individual reported that the most positive aspect of the facility was that it was “safe.”

Figure 40:
Abuse, Harassment, or Threats by Staff
(n = 20)

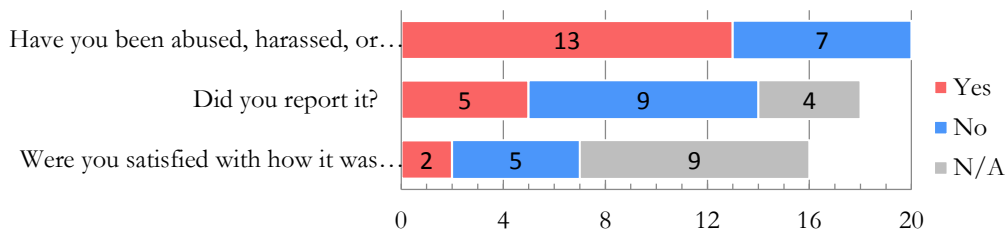
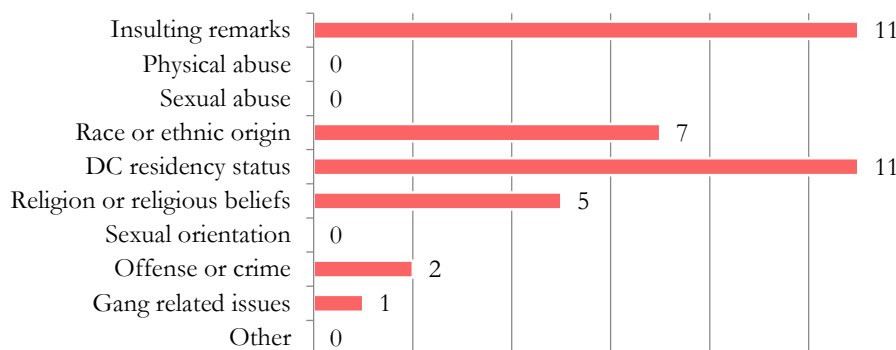


Figure 41:
Types of Abuse, Harassment, and Threats by Staff
(n = 15)



Most survey respondents did not report abuse, harassment, or threats by other inmates (Figure 42). Both individuals who did report that it involved insulting remarks about their status as DC inmates (Figure 43). One individual reported that he was physically assaulted by another inmate, and was not satisfied with how it was resolved by the facility.

²⁰ For more information, see the “Significant Incident Reports” table in Appendix B.

Figure 42:
Abuse, Harassment, or Threats by Other Inmates
(n = 18)

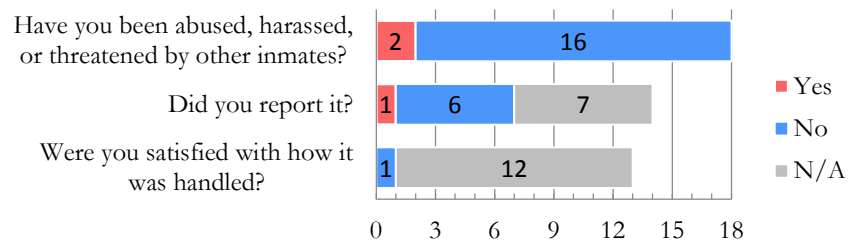
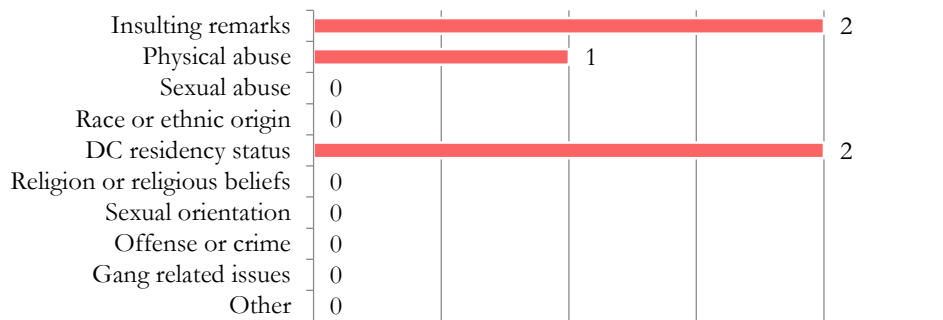


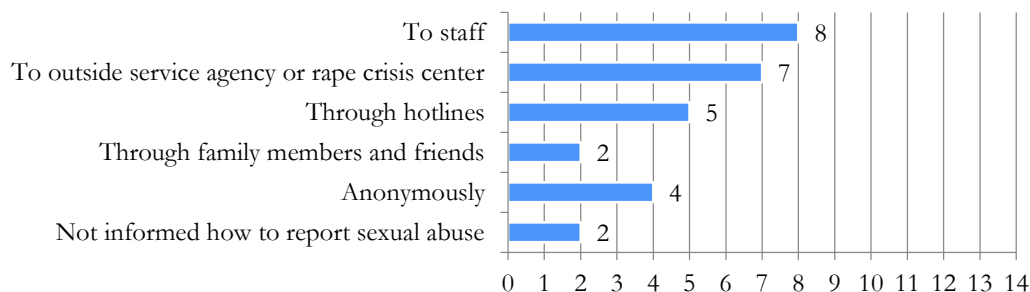
Figure 43:
Types of Abuse, Harassment, and Threats by Other Inmates
(n = 3)



Sexual Harassment and Abuse

In the survey, 12 of 14 respondents reported that they were informed how to report sexual abuse. A majority of respondents reported that they were told they could report sexual abuse to staff, although most were not informed that they could report sexual abuse anonymously (Figure 44), as required by the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) standards.²¹

Figure 44:
How Individuals Were Informed They Could Report Sexual Abuse
(n = 14)



²¹ National Standards to Prevent, Detect, and Respond to Prison Rape, 77 Fed. Reg. 37,106 (June 20, 2012) (codified at 28 C.F.R. pt. 115), <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-06-20/pdf/2012-12427.pdf>; Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003, Pub. L. No. 108-79, 117 Stat. 972 (2003), <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-108publ79/pdf/PLAW-108publ79.pdf>.

B. Use of Restraints

Staff reported that the last use of restraints was in May 2017. According to facility documentation, four uses of restraints took place in May 2017, in addition to 10 uses of restraints between July 2016 and April 2017 and 26 uses of force between July 2016 and June 2017.²²

Staff also reported that no DC inmates have been in four-point restraints in the past 12 months. One of the individuals interviewed reported that he was placed in four-point restraints²³ in the month before the inspection for around six to eight hours. Another individual was in ambulatory restraints²⁴ for a little over two hours when he was sent to the SHU, but did not specify when this occurred. He also stated that the restraints caused his arm to hurt because they were too tight.

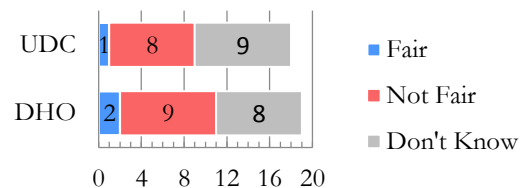
C. Disciplinary Process

Disciplinary violations in the BOP are initially written up as an incident report by a staff member. Violations considered low or moderate severity are referred to an individual's Unit Disciplinary Committee (UDC), composed of staff members from the particular housing unit. More severe violations are referred to the Disciplinary Hearing Officer (DHO), who ordinarily rotates between several facilities. UDC decisions may also be appealed to the DHO.

The DHO for FCI Beckley also rotates between FCI McDowell and Federal Prison Camp (FPC) Alderson. On the day of the inspection, the DHO had five hearings scheduled at FCI Beckley. Staff explained that the individuals sentenced to time in disciplinary segregation often have their time suspended and are placed back in general population. If they have another disciplinary issue, then they are sent back to the SHU to complete that time.

The vast majority of survey respondents reported that Unit Disciplinary Committee (UDC) and Disciplinary Hearing Officer (DHO) decisions were not fair (Figure 45). One individual explained that the UDC is tight knit because they are in-house and work together, although the DHO can be better. Another person explained that staff members are not willing to go after another staff member. Finally, one person reported that people from DC are treated worse than other inmates when it comes to discipline.

Figure 45:
Fairness of Disciplinary
Decisions
(n = 19)



VII. Administrative Remedy Program

The Administrative Remedy Program is the grievance process in BOP facilities that allows inmates to seek formal review of issues related to their confinement.²⁵ Ordinarily, an inmate must first attempt to informally resolve the issue before filing a grievance. The process then provides for three levels of formal review with corresponding filing forms: Facility (BP-9), Regional Office (BP-10), and Central Office (BP-11). At each level, an inmate submits a request or appeal, which is reviewed

²² For more information, see the "Significant Incident Reports" table in Appendix B.

²³ In four-point restraints, all four limbs are strapped to a bed while the individual lies supine.

²⁴ In ambulatory restraints, both the legs and hands are shackled while still allowing for a person to walk.

²⁵ Federal Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Department of Justice, Program Statement No. 1330.18, Administrative Remedy Program (Jan. 6, 2014), https://www.bop.gov/policy/progstat/1330_018.pdf.

by BOP officials and either rejected or filed. All requests or appeals that are filed must be answered within specific time frames, and remedy of the issue may be granted at any level. The number and types of administrative remedy submissions at FCI Beckley in the 12 months prior to inspection are available in Appendix C.

In response to the survey, less than half of the individuals reported having access to Request to Staff forms, also called “cop-outs”, for filing informal grievances (Figure 46), while only around one third of individuals reported having access to forms for filing grievances (Figure 47).

Figure 46:
Access to Request to Staff Forms
(Cop-Outs)
(n = 19)

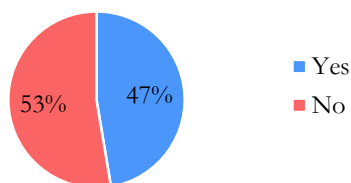
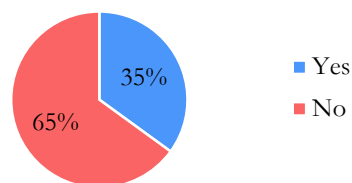
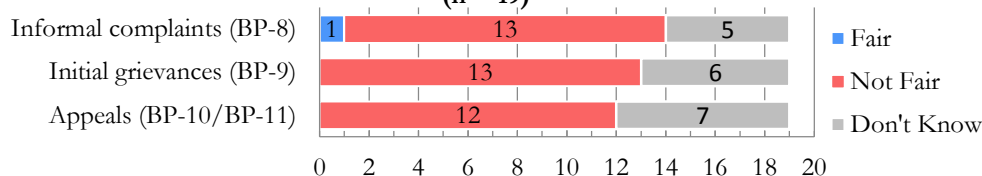


Figure 47:
Access to Grievance Forms
(BP-9, BP-10, BP-11)
(n = 20)



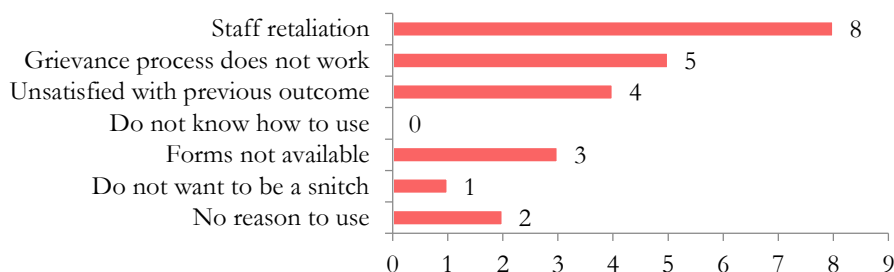
Most respondents (13 out of 19) reported that they did not use the grievance process. Respondents also nearly unanimously reported that the grievance process is unfair, and no one reported that the formal grievance process, starting with Form BP-9, is fair (Figure 48).

Figure 48:
Fairness of Administrative Remedy Process
(n = 19)



Staff retaliation was the biggest reason for choosing not to use the grievance process, followed by problems with the grievance process and dissatisfaction with previous outcomes (Figure 49).

Figure 49:
Reasons for choosing not to use the grievance process
(n = 15)



In comments to the survey, individuals expressed serious concern about staff retaliation as well as staff culture and lack of follow-through for complaints. Individuals reported that staff “try not to go

against each other, even when they know it is wrong” and instead just “rubber stamp other staff doings” to cover for each other. One individual stated, “They have a buddy-buddy system here, and they will let you know that it will not go anywhere.” Other individuals also expressed that staff will give no response and will even refuse to give forms to file grievances. One person explained that the forms have to be requested through the counselor on the unit, and that inmates have to provide the reason why filing and the staff member who it is about to be able to receive a grievance form. Another person stated that individuals have been transferred for filing grievances.

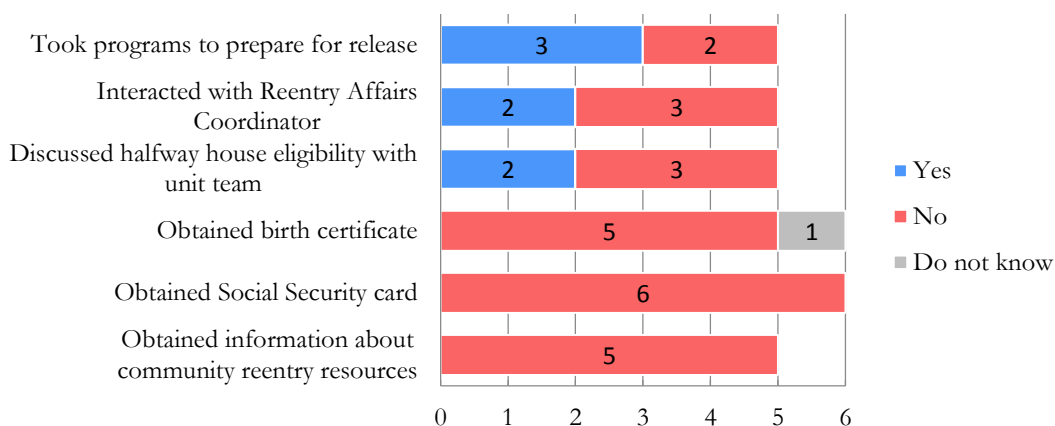
Recommendations

15. Make grievance forms (BP-8 through BP-11) available in housing units at all times without inmates having to request the form through staff, and also allow for grievance submissions through the electronic TRULINCS system.

VIII. Release Preparation and Reentry Services

To prepare inmates for release, FCI Beckley offers release preparation classes, job fairs with mock interviews and other events with outside volunteers, and packets of information related to reentry. Staff reported that around 20 volunteers come into the facility four times a year and offer reentry classes on topics such as parenting. Staff also reported that they begin to prepare inmates for reentry around one year prior to their release date. In response to the survey, while around of inmates within 18 months of release had taken programs or spoken with staff related to release, none of them had obtained their birth certificate, Social Security card, or information about community resources (Figure 50).

**Figure 50:
Pre-Release Programming and Services Within 18 Months of Release
(n = 6)**



For DC inmates, the facility participates in the quarterly videoconference provided by the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA).²⁶ The facility also makes the CSOSA information packet available to DC inmates.

²⁶ Through videoconferencing, CSOSA staff and representatives from other organizations provide information on housing, healthcare, employment, education, and other resources in the DC area to DC inmates in BOP custody who are within 90 days of release. Court Services & Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia, CSOSA Fact Sheet: Reentry in Washington, DC (2016), <https://www.csosa.gov/newsmedia/factsheets/reentry-2016.pdf>.

Release Preparation Program

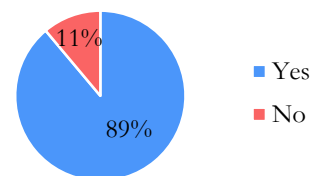
BOP facilities are required to follow a Release Preparation Program (RPP) that is intended to prepare inmates for community reentry upon release.²⁷ The program is overseen at the facility level by the Reentry Affairs Coordinator (RAC), a dedicated position within the executive staff. Along with an inmate's case manager, the RAC coordinates placement in a Residential Reentry Center (RRC, also known as a halfway house) as an inmate nears the end of his sentence.

At FCI Beckley, around 10 inmates participate in the RPP classes every quarter, according to staff. The classes are done in one day over about four hours and also include volunteers who provide information. Staff reported that the BOP has developed a standardized curriculum and described it as “a lot longer” with two to three days of programming. At the time of the inspection, FCI Beckley had not started to use this curriculum.

Distance from DC

In the survey, 16 individuals said they would be interested in moving closer to DC during their last 24 months of incarceration to prepare for reentry, while two said they would not be interested (Figure 51). Almost every person who indicated they wanted to be closer to DC commented that it would allow their family to see them more often, allowing them to stay close or reunite with their spouses, children, and grandchildren. Several individuals also noted that being closer to DC would provide for a better transition back into the community because they would have better access to information and programs in the District.

Figure 51:
Moving Closer to DC Would
Help Prepare for Reentry
(n = 18)



Recommendations

16. Transfer individuals sentenced from DC who will be released back into DC within two years to facilities closer to DC, including providing for at least six to nine months of halfway house time for those eligible.

²⁷ Federal Bureau of Prisons, U.S. Department of Justice, Program Statement No. 5325.07, Release Preparation Program (Dec, 31, 2007), https://www.bop.gov/policy/progstat/5325_007.pdf.

Appendix A: Methodology

In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the CIC and the BOP that requires at least 30 days notice of an inspection, the CIC notified the BOP on June 20, 2017, of its request to inspect FCI Beckley, including a tour of all areas to which inmates have access, discussions with staff, and confidential interviews with DC inmates. Prior to the on-site inspection, the CIC communicated with DC inmates at FCI Beckley, informing them of the upcoming inspection and offering them the opportunity for a confidential interview with a member of the CIC.

The CIC conducted an on-site inspection of FCI Beckley on August 1, 2017. The CIC was escorted during the tour by members of the executive staff. The CIC interviewed a total of 24 individuals from DC during the on-site inspection, all of whom at least partially completed a survey.

After the inspection, the survey responses were compiled using SurveyMonkey, a business intelligence tool, with unique identifiers used instead of individual names to protect confidentiality. Data was exported to Microsoft Excel, and charts were created on Microsoft Word. Charts and other analysis do not include non-responses, and the total number of respondents for a particular question are noted on each chart. Extended responses from the surveys were compiled with comments from other forms of communications with DC inmates at the facility and were used to inform analysis and provide context in applicable sections.

In addition to the on-site inspection, survey data, and communication with individuals incarcerated at the facility, the CIC reviewed general inmate and facility data related to inmate population and demographics, facility staffing, significant incidents, urine surveillance, and disciplinary records. The CIC also reviewed an education report, dining menus, commissary lists, the Admissions and Orientation Handbook, the most recent American Correctional Association (ACA) audit report, the most recent Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) audit report, and administrative remedy filings and responses at the facility, Regional Office, and Central Office levels.

The CIC provided the BOP with a draft version of the report for review of factual information and an opportunity to respond to follow-up questions and any other information in the report. The BOP response to the CIC draft report is included at the end of this report.

Appendix B: Significant Incidents

The table below provides an overview of the significant incidents reported by the facility into the TruIntel Data System between July 2016 and June 2017.

Significant Incident Reports	
Institution locked down	4
Inmate suicides	0
Inmate homicides	0
Inmate deaths from natural causes	1
Assault on inmate, with weapon	3
Assault on inmate, without weapon	20
Assault on staff, with weapon	1
Assault on staff, without weapon	9
Attempted assault on inmate, with weapon	0
Attempted assault on inmate, without weapon	3
Attempted assault on staff, with weapon	0
Attempted assault on staff, without weapon	9
Escape from secure facility	0
Escape from non-secure facility	2
Sexual act, non-consensual, on inmate	0
Sexual assault on staff	0
Sexual contact, abusive, on inmate	0
Uses of chemicals	15
Uses of force	26
Uses of restraints	14
Form 583 reports filed (reports to Central Office) ²⁸	95

Source: Federal Bureau of Prisons

²⁸ Form 583 is used to report significant incidents to the FBOP Central Office. The form is an electronic version of the Report of Incident form. Issues reported to the Central Office generally include deaths, suicides, escapes, serious assaults and other serious acts of misconduct by inmates, and uses of force, chemicals, or restraints by staff.

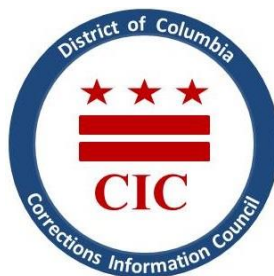
Appendix C: Administrative Remedy Filings

The table below provides an overview of the categories with administrative remedy filings (grievances) submitted at each level regarding FCI Beckley between June 2016 and May 2017.

Facility Level (BP-9) Administrative Remedy Filings					
	Submitted	Rejected	Filed	Answered	Granted
UDC/RRC Actions	36	9	27	27	0
Staff/Others - Complaints	32	9	23	23	0
Medical-Exc. Forced Treatment	24	4	20	20	0
Programs, Institution	18	6	12	12	0
Jail Time Credit	17	3	14	14	0
Special Housing Units	8	6	2	2	0
Community/Pre-Release Programs	6	0	6	6	0
DHO/CDC/Cont. Housing Appeals	6	6	0	0	0
Work Assignments	5	0	5	5	0
Dental Care	5	1	4	4	0
Legal Matters	5	1	4	4	0
Classification Matters	4	1	3	3	0
Mail Communication	4	0	4	4	0
Transfer - Request/Objection	3	1	2	2	0
Education, Recreation, Leisure	2	2	0	0	0
Visiting	2	1	1	1	0
Records Management	2	0	2	2	0
Other Statutorily-Mandated Procedures	2	1	1	1	0
Searches and Use of Restraints	1	0	1	1	0
Food	1	0	1	1	0
Operations, Institution	1	0	1	1	0
Mental Health Care	1	0	1	1	0
Sentence Computation	1	0	1	1	0
Disability-Physical or Mental	1	0	1	1	0
PREA	1	0	1	1	0
Regional Office (BP-10) Administrative Remedy Appeals					
	Submitted	Rejected	Filed	Answered	Granted
DHO/CDC/Cont. Housing Appeals	49	26	23	21	1
Staff/Others - Complaints	35	25	10	10	0
UDC/RRC Actions	19	8	11	11	0
Programs, Institution	11	7	4	3	1
Jail Time Credit	11	4	7	7	0
Medical-Exc. Forced Treatment	9	3	6	6	0
Classification Matters	6	4	2	2	0
Transfer - Request/Objection	5	5	0	0	0

Community/Pre-Release Programs	5	2	3	3	0
Work Assignments	3	0	3	3	0
Special Housing Units	2	1	1	1	0
Operations, Institution	2	1	1	1	0
Dental Care	2	0	2	2	0
Education, Recreation, Leisure	1	1	0	0	0
Visiting	1	0	1	1	0
Food	1	1	0	0	0
Legal Matters	1	0	1	1	0
Disability-Physical or Mental	1	0	1	1	0
Other Statutorily-Mandated Procedures	1	0	1	1	0
Central Office (BP-11) Administrative Remedy Appeals					
	Submitted	Rejected	Filed	Answered	Granted
DHO/CDC/Cont. Housing Appeals	11	5	6	4	0
Staff/Others - Complaints	10	4	6	3	0
UDC/RRC Actions	8	3	5	3	1
Jail Time Credit	7	3	4	4	1
Programs, Institution	6	3	3	2	0
Medical-Exc. Forced Treatment	3	1	2	2	0
Work Assignments	2	0	2	2	0
Classification Matters	2	1	1	1	0
Operations, Institution	2	1	1	1	0
Education, Recreation, Leisure	1	1	0	0	0
Community/Pre-Release Programs	1	1	0	0	0
Other Statutorily-Mandated Procedures	1	0	1	1	0

Source: Federal Bureau of Prisons



**District of Columbia
Corrections Information Council**

The electronic version of this report is
available on the CIC website:
<https://www.cic.dc.gov/>



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Prisons

Washington, DC 20534

APR - 5 2018

Michelle R. Bonner, Esq.
Executive Director
DC Corrections Informations Council
2901 14th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009

Dear Ms. Bonner,

This letter is in response to the draft inspection report received on March 7, 2018, regarding the August 1-2, 2017, visit to FCI Beckley. The Federal Bureau of Prisons (Bureau) recognizes the value of the Corrections Information Council (CIC) inspections of its facilities and the voice it provides the D.C. Superior Court inmates. We hope to continue working closely to improve the Bureau facilities and raise awareness with regard to those inmates' needs. I offer the following response to statements and recommendations in the report:

The Bureau notes the draft report findings are based on a small percentage of DC inmates housed at FCI Beckley. At the time of the visit, FCI Beckley housed 73 inmates from the D.C. area. As indicated in the report, less than 20% participated in the survey and/or interview. Throughout the report, unsubstantiated allegations are made without direct observation by the CIC or supported by facts that can be corroborated. The Bureau takes allegations of misconduct seriously. If provided with specific case information, the Bureau will investigate any matter that warrants review.

Response to Allegations:

The draft report states: "13 out of 20 survey respondents

reported that they had been abused, harassed, or threatened by staff, with most reporting insulting or discriminatory remarks related to their status as a DC inmate or their race, ethnicity, or religious beliefs."

Response: FCI Beckley takes all allegations of misconduct seriously and reviews them for appropriate disposition. Inmates have access to supervisory staff and can submit written and electronic requests to staff to address any possible abuse of authority. In addition, staff are trained annually on the Standards of Employee Conduct, and proper management of offenders. Inmates also have access to the Administrative Remedy process to resolve these issues. These processes are intended to reduce and/or eliminate discrimination, abuse, or harassment. The Bureau has zero tolerance for misconduct.

The draft report states: "In the survey, 74% of respondents reported that they did not feel they had adequate access to medical and dental services (14 out of 18 respondents). In addition, a large number of respondents did not have access to sick call request slips and majority of respondents reported that Health Services "rarely" responded to sick call requests within 48 hours."

Response: All inmates, including D.C. inmates, have the opportunity to request sick call appointments for medical or dental, four days per week: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Inmates are seen according to the triage/sick call guidelines. Inmates are seen in person and based on their clinical presentation and the clinical practice guidelines, could be examined immediately by an appropriate medical clinician.

The draft report states: "Half of the respondents reported that they did not have adequate access to mental health (six out of 12 respondents)."

Response: All inmates have access to Mental Health services. Inmates can report to Psychology Services every Thursday from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm to be seen by Psychology Services. Inmates can also submit an electronic or written request to staff to be seen and receive appropriate mental health services. Inmates having a mental health crisis will be seen immediately.

The draft report states: "Medical staff included two doctors, two nurse practitioners, two physician assistants, six nurses,

and a pharmacist, as well as a contract laboratory technician and contract X-Ray technician."

Response: The Health Services Department includes a Clinical Director, one physician, two nurse practitioners, four physician assistants, six nurses, and a Chief Pharmacist, as well as numerous clinical contractor workers.

The draft report states: "Several individuals also noted difficulty in receiving medication, including two people who stated that medical staff force patients to purchase medication from the commissary rather than treat during sick call."

Response: According to Program Statement 6541.02, Over-the-Counter Medications (OTC), during institution triage/sick call, medical staff will refer inmates to the commissary in response to complaints related to cosmetic and general hygiene issues or symptoms of minor medical ailments. Inmates will purchase OTC medications from the commissary with their personal funds. However, inmates will be given OTC medications at the institution pharmacy if they are determined to not have the ability to pay. FCI Beckley's Health Services Department works to complete and administer all prescriptions and refills within one business day. If the inmate has an acute condition, the prescription is immediately filled and administered.

The draft report states: "In comments, a few individuals reported that staff members are disrespectful to family members and that some make inappropriate sexual advances toward their family members."

Response: FCI Beckley takes all allegations of misconduct seriously and reviews them for appropriate disposition. In addition, staff are trained annually on the Standards of Employee Conduct, and proper management of offenders. Inmate visitors have access to the public website to email or call the institution to voice concern regarding staff misconduct during visitation. FCI Beckley has not received complaints from any inmate regarding allegations of sexual advances toward inmate family members.

The draft report states: "Food Service spends \$3.05 per day on meals for each inmate."

Response: The Food Service Department is allocated \$3.20 per day on meals for each inmate.

The draft report states: "At FCI Beckley, the Education Department has 11 staff, including ten teachers. One position for a vocational instructor was vacant at the time of the inspection."

Response: The Education Department at FCI Beckley has a Supervisor of Education, 8 Teachers, 1 Education Specialist, 1 Education Technician and has hired a Vocational Training Instructor in addition to a contract Vocational Training Instructor.

The draft report states: "There were 26 Use of Force incidents between July 2016 and June 2015."

Response: According to Appendix B, Significant Incident Reports, the 26 Use of Force incidents were between July 2016 and June 2017.

Recommendations by CIC:

Provide staff training on professionalism and educate staff members that, while sentencing structure and other concerns of DC inmates might be different, this professionalism is constant.

Response: Staff are trained annually on the Standards of Employee Conduct, and proper management of offenders. Additionally, inmates have access to the administrative remedy process to resolve these issues. The Bureau has zero tolerance for discrimination, abuse, or harassment.

Hire additional medical staff to reduce wait times for medical services and to meet reasonable accommodations, especially during lockdowns.

Response: FCI Beckley is currently in the process of hiring an additional Registered Nurse.

Although response numbers for mental health treatment and programs were small, the CIC still recommends that the facility regularly evaluate wait times for inmate receipt of services and access to recovery programs.

Response: All inmates have access to Mental Health services. All inmates can report to Psychology Services every Thursday from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm to be seen by Psychology Services. Inmates can also submit an electronic or written request to staff to be seen and receive appropriate mental health

services. Inmates that are in crisis will be seen immediately. Staff meet with inmates consistent with their established Mental Health Care Level status. Specifically, an inmate with a mental health designation of Care Level 2 is seen at least monthly. An inmate that has a mental health designation of Care Level 3 is seen weekly. An inmate with a mental health designation of Care Level 1 is seen by request. Once again, an inmate having a mental health crisis will be seen immediately.

In addition to filling dental staff vacancies as planned, explore hiring temporary contract staff again, if possible, to reduce wait times for dental care.

Response: FCI Beckley is working toward hiring two contract dentists to provide additional coverage and reduce wait times for non-emergent/routine dental care.

Increase staff rounds in the SHU for medical, medical health, religious, and educational staff, including ensure that medical staff perform the required daily rounds.

Response: Medical staff make rounds every morning in the Special Housing Unit (SHU). The evening shift registered nurse makes rounds every evening delivering medications and supplies. In addition, the Mid-Level Practitioners see patients in SHU on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The Health Services Administrator attends the weekly SHU review meeting and makes rounds weekly. The Supervisors of Education and Recreation make rounds in SHU no less than once per week. Additionally, Education staff make rounds in SHU to distribute leisure reading materials and distribute and/or collect Adult Continuing Education (ACE) self-study course materials. Psychology conducts weekly SHU rounds and is available by request. As required by policy, monthly SHU reviews are done to ensure every inmate in SHU is seen. Religious Services conducts rounds in SHU each week and are available seven days a week for any inmate's religious needs.

Review mail policies to identify and reduce causes for delays and provide staff training on proper mail handling procedures for legal mail and other special mail.

Response: Inmate Legal/Special mail is identified and treated appropriately. If inmates have concerns they can address the mailroom staff every Monday/Wednesday/Friday from 7:30 am - 8:00 am. In addition, inmates can seek redress through the Administrative Remedy procedure. Staff are trained annually during Annual Training on the proper handling of Legal/Special

Mail.

Review new restrictions on incoming mail to lessen restrictions and allow for more mail to get through.

Response: Inmates are able to correspond with their families, friends, and other outside parties. This correspondence is encouraged throughout an inmate's incarceration. This correspondence can be through regular mail and electronic mail. Mail is thoroughly searched to ensure it is safe and does not pose a risk to the security of the institution or jeopardize the safety of staff and inmates. Mail that is deemed not a hazard to the safety and security of the institution, staff and inmates, is processed accordingly.

Increase number of structured recreational opportunities and programs.

Response: The Recreation Department continues to work with the Re-Entry Affairs Coordinator, Unit Team, and Health Services to expand classes and programs offered to the inmate population, including classes in the At-Risk Program and Reentry based classes and programs. Recreation Department activities provide a vital outlet for the inmate population, both physically and mentally.

Recreational activities include intramural sports, court activities, wellness/leisure activities, hobby craft, music program, and passive recreation.

Intramural sports include softball, soccer, flag football, basketball, and volleyball. Our intramural sports take place during their respective seasons. Court activities include handball, racquetball, bocce, and horseshoes. The Wellness program offers structured fitness classes, health and fitness equipment, and the Presidential Sports Award program. The Health Awareness Resource Area contains videos, magazines, and pamphlets promoting betterment and wellness.

Ceramics, leather craft, drawing and painting, and newly instituted fly tying, calligraphy, and cartooning are available through Hobby Craft. A unit-based hobby craft program, designed to give an alternative option to those in search of an additional leisure activity, is also offered.

Music programs include music theory classes, band program, and individual lessons. Passive activities such as billiards,

table games, and card games are provided in the recreation department. Holiday activities and special events are offered as well.

In correlation with the Bureau's Reentry efforts, the Recreation Department is offering the following classes: certification for NFPT (National Federation of Professional Trainers), Pre-Release Wellness, Social Skills Development, and Leisure Time Management.

The single most important goal of the Recreation Department is to provide and promote a schedule of activities which allows for the greatest number of participants. The department encourages all inmates to take an active role in health and fitness activities.

Increase quality and size of meals. In addition to addressing concerns, this will offset limited food options created by removal of microwaves from units.

Response: The serving sizes at FCI Beckley meet and/or exceed the minimum requirements set forth by the BOP National Menu, which includes the approved menu, recipes, and product specifications that are to be used for food procurement, preparation, and meal service at all institutions. Additionally, there are currently three versions of the breakfast menu available on the National Menu (continental, hot/continental mix, and hot). FCI Beckley has implemented the hot and continental version of the breakfast menu offering the inmate population more variety and three hot breakfast meals on a weekly basis. FCI Beckley continues to offer a hot bar at each meal that affords the inmate population the opportunity to help themselves to the majority of starch and vegetable options. A salad bar is also offered numerous times throughout the week during the lunch meal.

Inmates can also purchase food items from the inmate commissary. These food items include soups, chips, packaged meats, etc. If items require hot water, hot water dispensers are available in each housing unit.

Provide vegetarian options, including those containing protein, for individuals who do not qualify for the certified religious diet but do not eat certain types of meat.

Response: Heart Healthy and no-flesh alternative options are identified on all menus at FCI Beckley. Menu alternatives are reviewed annually at the national level by a Registered

Dietitian to ensure adequate nutritional substitutions are offered. Annual food surveys are conducted, providing inmates with the opportunity to express their preferences.

Provide staff training on respecting religious rights and interacting with different faiths.

Response: Training for all staff is conducted yearly during Annual Training. This training provides an awareness for staff on various inmate faith traditions. Religious Services is also available 7 days a week for any inmate or staff assistance.

Hire additional education teachers or partner with nearby educational institutions to increase access to educational programs

Response: The Education Department recently added an Education Technician and a Vocational Trades Instructor. The department recently added 5 additional GED/Special Learning Needs classes to the schedule, and is now operating on a full literacy schedule of 23 GED/SLN courses among seven full-time GED/SLN teachers. The department recently added the Victim Impact program, a College Entrance Preparedness course, and completed two courses for inmates in celebration of Black History Month.

In conjunction with the Victim Impact program, the department is reaching out to community resources to have professionals speak to inmates on behalf of domestic violence and similar issues. This effort expands upon working community relationships that are already in place, to include the Raleigh County Board of Education Academy of Careers and Technology, New River Community and Technical College, and Carnegie Hall, Inc.

The Education Department recently completed a pilot program in conjunction with UNICOR to provide instruction through the American Society for Quality (ASQ) for Certified Quality Improvement Associates (CQIA). This pilot was successful and the program was pushed out to eight more institutions in the fall 2017. The department offers this program three times per year to 10 inmates at a time and fees are paid through a UNICOR scholarship. To date, the program has certified 15 inmates with lifetime licenses and an additional 10 inmates are currently pending certification.

Hire additional staff to increase access to vocational training programs.

Response: A Vocational Training Instructor was added to the Education Department staff in January 2018, in addition to the Advanced Occupational Education contract VT Instructor already in place. In addition to the Building Trades (currently Carpentry, Residential Wiring, and Blueprint Reading), HVAC, and Major Appliance, the new instructor continually works with the Supervisor of Education to seek out training opportunities to improve and expand the opportunities provided to inmates, to include becoming a Forklift/Scissor lift Training Instructor and a Master Trainer through NCCER (National Center for Construction Education and Research).

Review program enrollment policies to provide greater access to individuals who have a upcoming parole eligibility date but a maximum sentence length that disqualifies them from programs.

Response: FCI Beckley is now using the parole eligibility date for program enrollments for DC inmates.

Make grievance forms (BP-8 through BP-11) available in housing units at all times without inmates having to request the form through staff, and also allow for grievance submissions through the electronic TRULINCS system.

Response: Administrative Remedy forms are readily available from any member of an inmate's Unit Team, seven days a week, including those inmates housed in the Special Housing Unit (SHU). Over 407 Administrative Remedies were submitted during the requested period which states forms are readily available and inmates have the ability to resolve their complaints.

Transfer individuals sentenced from DC who will be released back into DC within two years to facilities closer to DC, including for at least six to nine months of halfway house time for those eligible.

Response: The Bureau has established policy to address release residence. Program Statement, 5100.08, Inmate Security Designation and Custody Classification, states, "The Bureau of Prisons attempts to place each inmate in an institution that is reasonably close to the anticipated release area. Ordinarily, placement within 500 miles of the release area is to be considered reasonable, regardless of whether there may be an institution closer to the inmate's release area."

The Designation and Sentence Computation Center monitors DC

inmates who are outside of the 500-mile release area on a weekly basis. When deemed appropriate, these inmates will be reviewed for transfer.

I appreciate the opportunity to review and provide comments to your inspection report of FCI Beckley. I hope to continue working closely with the CIC to improve the operations of Bureau facilities and ensure we are meeting the needs of the inmate population.

Please contact me at (202) 353-3606 if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryan Feinstein", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bryan Feinstein
Acting Administrator
Correctional Programs Branch