

Anthology of Abuse: End Three Decades of Abuse at the Elizabeth Detention Center

Background

In 1994, the federal government began detaining immigrants in a former industrial warehouse in Elizabeth, New Jersey. Not a full year later, people detained there staged an uprising to protest the torturous conditions they faced at the already infamous facility and call for their freedom.¹ After only brief closure and despite continued protests and legal battles, the windowless facility now known as the Elizabeth Detention Center (EDC) is still in operation, with capacity to detain up to 300 people through a direct contract between Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and private prison corporation CoreCivic.²

The inhumane conditions that plague the immigration detention system are exacerbated at the EDC due to its reliance on infrastructure that was never intended to be lived in.³ For nearly three decades, people incarcerated in the facility have been subject to severe lack of access to fresh air or sunlight, cramped and unsanitary living quarters infested with vermin, consistent medical neglect, and abusive treatment from guards and other EDC staff—some for exceptionally long periods of time. These dangerous inadequacies have been magnified during the COVID-19 pandemic, with EDC having the distinction of being the first ICE detention center to report a positive case.⁴ The situation became so dire that the EDC's landlord filed a lawsuit against CoreCivic, claiming that the company breached its lease agreement by failing to follow the appropriate safety regulations to mitigate the impact and spread of COVID-19.⁵

In 2021, state officials finally stepped up and responded to years of advocacy by passing state legislation that prohibits contracts for immigration detention operations in New Jersey. ICE

¹ Perez Pena, Richard. "[Immigrants] Overrun a Jail in New Jersey." The New York Times. June 19, 1995. <https://www.nytimes.com/1995/06/19/us/illegal-aliens-overrun-a-jail-in-new-jersey.html>.

² In its initial stint of operation, the facility was run by Esmor Correctional Services Corporation, another leading private firm that profited from government contracts for halfway houses, "welfare hotels," and immigration detention centers.

³ The city's initial approval for use of the facility reflected that people would be detained for no more than three weeks, which Mayor Bollwage cited in his opposition to its reopening. This brief will emphasize how any amount of time is harmful.

Sullivan, John. "Talks Are Held On Reopening Of Alien Unit." The New York Times. January 19, 1996. <https://www.nytimes.com/1996/01/19/nyregion/talks-are-held-on-reopening-of-alien-unit.html>.

⁴ Garger, Kenneth and Craig McCarthy. "ICE medical staffer at NJ detention center tests positive for coronavirus." New York Post. March 20, 2020. <https://nypost.com/2020/03/20/ice-medical-staffer-at-nj-detention-center-tests-positive-for-coronavirus/>.

⁵ Katz, Matt. "ICE Jailer in New Jersey Is Sued By Its Landlord, Claiming Unsafe Conditions." Gothamist. May 3, 2021. <https://gothamist.com/news/ice-jailer-new-jersey-sued-its-landlord-claiming-unsafe-conditions>.

circumvented these efforts and quietly extended its contract with CoreCivic for another two years at the EDC before the governor signed the bill into law.⁶

Purpose

ICE insists through internal inspections that the EDC is in compliance with “rigorous detention standards” despite years of evidence exposing its inhumanity. EDC is proof that regardless of the amount of oversight conducted, complaints filed, and legal battles endured, ICE detention is rotten to its core and incapable of improvement. The facility must be shut down.

This brief is intended to provide an evidence bank for this argument. For years, people detained at EDC, advocates, lawyers, government agencies, and journalists have witnessed, investigated, and detailed the horrors of confinement at the EDC, creating a long paper trail of abuse. Yet ICE continues to detain immigrants there. As we approach the new contract end date on August 31, 2023, CoreCivic is suing the state of New Jersey in an effort to invalidate the democratically approved legislation that would force them to finally close its doors at EDC.⁷ A decision in favor of CoreCivic would undermine New Jersey democratic processes and ignore mass community opposition to the incarceration of beloved community members.

We cannot continue to settle for oversight and promises to address conditions in deference to corporate interests. The damning trail of evidence shared in this brief demonstrates that the only solution is to shut the Elizabeth Detention Center down and release the people inside. What follows is a comprehensive, but by no means exhaustive summary of evidence and collection of resources from a variety of perspectives substantiating the ongoing demand for closure.

The Paper Trail

Advocates and Directly Impacted Individuals

People detained at the EDC as well as other immigrant rights advocates and organizers have long decried the extensive human rights abuses at the facility. Its history is littered with legal battles, while reports from groups like Human Rights First (HRF) and the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) document in detail the horrific conditions and culture of violence at the facility through countless stories from people detained there.

One of the major issues consistently named is a troubling pattern of deliberate medical neglect. Through interviews and other forms of testimony, AFSC found that medical staff at the EDC

⁶ Nieto Del Rio, Guilia. “ICE Quietly Extends Elizabeth Detention Center Contract With CoreCivic.” Documented. August 13, 2021. <https://documentedny.com/2021/08/13/ice-quietly-extends-elizabeth-detention-center-contract-with-corecivic/>.

⁷ CoreCivic v. Murphy, Platkin. Complaint filed February 17, 2023. https://s3.documentcloud.org/documents/23686412/complaint_230220_074306.pdf.

routinely deny examinations and medical care, dismissing people's very real concerns and often only providing Tylenol as treatment regardless of the issue at hand.⁸ Two people have died in custody at the EDC as a direct result⁹—Boubacar Bah from a head injury that went untreated for over 14 hours despite requests to see a doctor,¹⁰ and Victor Ramitez Reyes after receiving improper treatment for an identified cardiopulmonary condition.¹¹ There were also instances of medical staff manipulating ailing immigrants into accepting deportation with the threat that they would not receive necessary treatment in custody.¹²

Despite this dismal state of care, conditions at EDC both exacerbate existing afflictions and facilitate new illness, physical and mental. Insufficient ventilation has led to years of asthma-inducing dust buildup and created breeding grounds for vermin like worms or maggots, which people have reported finding in the shower area and even in their food.¹³ Meanwhile, access to fresh air and outdoor recreation is extremely limited, consisting of an enclosed room with a barred skylight letting in heavily polluted air from the surrounding warehouse district.¹⁴ Unsurprisingly, these issues were fatally exacerbated when the COVID-19 pandemic hit, with people detained reporting a callous disregard for safety measures from facility staff. Inconsistent quarantine practices, ranging from dormitory-wide lockdowns to cruel isolation placements, and failure to provide basic protective gear like masks led to outbreak after outbreak.¹⁵ Ultimately, an officer working at the EDC died from the virus and AFSC, the Immigrant Defense Project, and the NYU School of Law Immigrant Rights Clinic filed a class action lawsuit with the goal of securing everyone's release from the facility.¹⁶

⁸ American Friends Service Committee, New Jersey Immigrant Rights Program, and New Jersey Prison Watch Program. "Free Them All: The double crisis of human caging and COVID-19 in New Jersey and how to end it." September 2022. https://afsc.org/sites/default/files/2023-03/AFSC%20-%20Free%20Them%20All%20NJ%20report%202022_web.pdf.

⁹ There is a third case where a man, Ehamparam Appukuddy, died of a heart condition after being transferred to another facility from Elizabeth. His heart condition had been flagged by his attorney when he was still at the EDC.

Dugger, Celia, "In Pursuit Of Freedom, Only to Find Prison Bars;Immigration Officials Try to Discern Those Fleeing Persecution." The New York Times. July 8, 1996. <https://www.nytimes.com/1996/07/08/nyregion/pursuit-freedom-only-find-prison-bars-immigration-officials-try-discern-those.html>.

¹⁰ Bernstein, Nina. "Few Details on Immigrants Who Died in Custody." The New York Times. May 5, 2008. <https://www.nytimes.com/2008/05/05/nyregion/05detain.html>.

¹¹ Chan, Jennifer, Mary Small, Carl Takei, and Carol Wu. "Fatal Neglect: How ICE Ignores Deaths in ICE Detention." American Civil Liberties Union, Detention Watch Network, and National Immigrant Justice Center. February 2016. https://www.aclu.org/wp-content/uploads/legal-documents/fatal_neglect_acludwnnjjc.pdf.

¹² American Friends Service Committee. Ibid.

¹³ Bakst, Eleni and Olga Byrne. "Ailing Justice—New Jersey: Inadequate Healthcare, Indifference, and Indefinite Confinement in Immigration Detention." Human Rights First. February 2018. <https://humanrightsfirst.org/library/ailing-justice-new-jersey-inadequate-healthcare-indifference-and-indefinite-confinement-in-immigration-detention/>.

¹⁴ The EDC is situated near Newark Liberty Airport, as well as Amazon, Fedex, and Shoprite distribution centers.

¹⁵ American Friends Service Committee. Ibid.

¹⁶ Aganan et al. v. Rodriguez et al. Petition for writ of habeas corpus and complaint for injunctive and declaratory relief prepared by American Friends Service Committee, Immigrant Defense Project, and the

This lawsuit is not the only one the EDC has faced. Following the 1995 uprising, twenty people who were detained there at the time while seeking asylum sued the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) alleging inhumane conditions of confinement.¹⁷ Many of the accusations reflect the ongoing issues already noted, including overcrowded and unsanitary living quarters, physical and verbal assault, refusal to provide medical care, as well as violation of the religious rights of detained Muslim immigrants. The case ended in a partial victory a decade later,¹⁸ but unfortunately people continue to face these same abuses today.

In the nearly two decades since the decision, sustained organizing and advocacy¹⁹ culminated in a major victory in 2021: passage of a state bill that would effectively close the EDC. While ICE temporarily circumvented this loss by rapidly extending its contract and CoreCivic seeks to bring the battle to court, efforts to shut the facility down once and for all remain strong.²³

Government Oversight

Oversight mechanisms in place to review ICE detention are inadequate and/or unenforceable. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) has found that the infrequency, advance notice, and scope of ICE's primarily internal inspections process is conducive to leaving deficiencies unaddressed for years, despite numerous inspections of individual facilities revealing conditions severe enough to threaten the health and safety of people in custody.²⁴ Even where there is a proven pattern, as has been documented at the EDC, accountability mechanisms are virtually nonexistent.

NYU School of Law Immigrant Rights Clinic. Filed May 15, 2020.

https://www.nronline.org/files/file_attachments/FreeThemAll%20EDC%20Class%20Action%20AS%20FI%20LED.pdf.

¹⁷ Daniels, Pauline. "The Ins and Outs of the Jama Case Part I." States of Incarceration.

<https://statesofincarceration.org/story/ins-and-outs-jama-case-part-i>.

¹⁸ Debevoise, Dickinson. *Jama v. Esmor Correctional Services, Inc.* Opinion. March 17, 2008.

<https://casetext.com/case/jama-v-esmor-correctional-services-3>.

¹⁹ For photographs of the first civil disobedience outside the Elizabeth Detention Center, see:

CBS News. "NJ Immigrant Rights Protest." December 10, 2013.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/newyork/pictures/nj-immigrant-rights-protest/>.

²⁰ Appelbaum, Aliza. "Immigration activists march 12 miles from Ellis Island to Elizabeth detention facility."

NJ.com. March 9, 2011. https://www.nj.com/news/2011/03/immigration_activists_march_12.html.

²¹ Alvarado, Monsy. "36 protesters arrested at Elizabeth ICE detention center, charged with blocking street." NorthJersey.com. July 1, 2019. <https://www.northjersey.com/story/news/new-jersey/2019/07/01/ice-detention-center-nj-protesters-arrested-obstruction-charges/1617018001/>.

²² Katz, Matt and MNYC staff. "Protesters Confront Congressmen Visiting NJ ICE Facility: 'What Are You Doing To Shut This Place Down?'" Gothamist. August 22, 2019. <https://gothamist.com/news/protesters-confront-congressmen-visiting-nj-ice-facility-what-are-you-doing-to-shut-this-place-down>.

²³ Nieto-Muñoz, Sophie. "Private Prison Firm Sues Governor Murphy In Bid To Continue Housing ICE Detainees." New Jersey Monitor. February 22, 2023. <https://patch.com/new-jersey/across-nj/private-prison-firm-sues-governor-murphy-bid-continue-housing-ice-detainees>.

²⁴ U.S. Department of Homeland Security Office of the Inspector General. "ICE's Inspections and Monitoring of Detention Facilities Do Not Lead to Sustained Compliance or Systemic Improvements." June 2018. <https://www.oig.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/assets/2018-06/OIG-18-67-Jun18.pdf>.

Investigations at EDC began shortly after it opened. Not long after the 1995 uprising, the INS published the results of a two-month investigation that detailed the culture of violence and abusive treatment of immigrants at the hands of facility guards.²⁵²⁶ Evidence showed that guards degraded, assaulted, and engaged in torturous practices including solitary confinement and keeping lights on 24 hours a day to deprive people detained of sleep. Some cases were even referred to the FBI for investigation—and unfortunately this would not be the only FBI investigation into guard violence at the EDC.²⁷ The results of the investigation were so appalling that the federal government was forced to cease operations at the facility, though unfortunately only for a brief time.

The EDC was singled out again by the Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) in a 2020 memo resulting from a multi-year investigation concerning allegations about inadequate medical and mental healthcare, particularly the treatment and monitoring of people experiencing withdrawal while in detention.²⁸ While the observations and recommendations are mostly redacted,²⁹ these issues are evident even in ICE's internal inspections. In just the inspection period preceding the investigation, there were 126 grievances reported, including 22 medical grievances,³⁰ and multiple members of Congress from New Jersey and other states in the region joined protests to condemn these issues at the facility.³¹

The Media

New Jersey journalism has also contributed to public pressure and exposed abuses at EDC, particularly regarding COVID-19 outbreaks and deficiencies in the facility's pandemic

²⁵ Dunn, Ashley. "U.S. Inquiry Finds Detention Center Was Poorly Run." The New York Times. July 22, 1995. <https://www.nytimes.com/1995/07/22/nyregion/us-inquiry-finds-detention-center-was-poorly-run.html>.

²⁶ "Guards charged with mistreating immigrants." United Press International. October 13, 1995. <https://www.upi.com/Archives/1995/10/13/Guards-charged-with-mistreating-immigrants/3132813556800/>.

²⁷ See for example:

"News In Brief." Prison Legal News. November 15, 2003.

<https://www.prisonlegalnews.org/news/2003/nov/15/news-in-brief/>.

"FBI Investigates CCA-Run INS Center in New Jersey." Prison Legal News. October 15, 1999.

<https://www.prisonlegalnews.org/news/1999/oct/15/fbi-investigates-cca-run-ins-center-in-new-jersey/>.

²⁸ See Mina, Peter and Dana Salvano-Dunn. U.S. Department of Homeland Security Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties memorandum to ICE leadership. June 23, 2020.

<https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/2021-12/expert-memo-cbp-ihsc-06-23-20.pdf>.

²⁹ It is worth noting how heavily redacted *most* publicly available inspections and investigations reports are, adding to the system's obscurity and lack of public accountability.

³⁰ See Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations: Condition of Confinement Inspection Worksheet re: Elizabeth Contract Detention Facility. October 2016.

<https://embed.documentcloud.org/documents/6939487-2016-ERO-Inspection-Elizabeth-NJ-CCA#document/p54/a567459>.

³¹ See for example:

"Father's Day Rally at the Elizabeth Detention Center, New Jersey." Representative Nadler and Representative Jeffries speak. June 18, 2018. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=78FqjEb-QS0>.

Booker, Senator Cory. Twitter. January 30, 2017.

<https://twitter.com/senbooker/status/826284137229254656>.

response—often uplifting the voices of people organizing and fighting for their lives inside the facility.³²³³³⁴³⁵ One of the most egregious cases involved ICE’s rapid deportation of Hector García Mendoza, a primary plaintiff in the 2020 class action suit.³⁶ ICE has a history of suppressing organizing and advocacy through retaliatory removals, as exposed in this case. Despite a federal judge placing a hold on García Mendoza’s removal, ICE deported him to Nuevo Laredo, a city known to be dangerous for immigrants, after which he went missing. Both local and national media, along with Hector’s loved ones and attorneys, worked to bring this to light and seek answers, tragically without resolution.

This isn’t the only time the media exposed ICE’s culture of secrecy and suppression at the EDC.³⁷ When a Times reporter inquired about Boubacar Bah’s condition in 2007, a spokesman for the agency rebuffed them. The Times then teamed up with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) to obtain records under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) that revealed that when Bah entered a coma after being denied treatment for his skull fracture and left in an isolation cell, ICE conspired to hide his condition.³⁸ Officials considered sending him back to Guinea, his country of origin, while still in a coma to avoid taking on added medical costs and scrutiny from media exposure. They ultimately decided to release him to family in the U.S. on humanitarian grounds—who also lacked the means to provide the appropriate care—but he died days before his planned release.

The media has also amplified and informed grassroots efforts. Reporting on months of public backlash from students at Kean University and other activists against EDC’s leasing company, the Elberon Development Group, threatened its reputation and executives’ positions on the

³² Star-Ledger Editorial Board. “‘I’m going to lose my life in this place’: ICE detainees beg for release.” NJ.com. March 31, 2020. <https://www.nj.com/opinion/2020/03/im-going-to-lose-my-life-in-this-place-ice-detainees-beg-for-release-editorial.html>.

³³ La Gorce, Tammy. “‘Everybody Was Sick’: Inside an ICE Detention Center.” The New York Times. May 15, 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/15/nyregion/coronavirus-ice-detainees-immigrants.html>.

³⁴ Katz, Matt and Brian Lehrer. “ICE Detention Issues in Three NJ Counties.” The Brian Lehrer Show, WNYC. December 2, 2020. <https://www.wnyc.org/story/ice-detainees-hunger-strike-nj/>.

³⁵ Cushing, Belle, Jika Gonzalez, and David Noriega. “Immigrants Are Now on Hunger Strike in 3 ICE Detention Centers Over Coronavirus Fears.” Vice News. March 20, 2020. <https://www.vice.com/en/article/pkew79/immigrants-are-now-on-hunger-strike-in-3-ice-detention-centers-over-coronavirus-fears>.

³⁶ Aquino, Alyssa. “Immigrant Deported Right As Judge Halts ICE’s Removal Plan.” Law360. May 20, 2020. <https://www.law360.com/articles/1275368/immigrant-deported-right-as-judge-halts-ice-s-removal-plan>.

³⁷ As a private facility, the EDC is not subject to OPRA requests. ICE has also twice shut down a non-profit hotline operated by First Friends of New Jersey and New York.

³⁸ Bernstein, Nina. “Officials Hid Truth of Immigrant Deaths in Jail.” The New York Times. January 9, 2010. <https://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/10/us/10detain.html>.

university's board.³⁹⁴⁰ In May 2021, *WNYC* broke the news that after years of “protests, prayer services, and 24-hour vigils at the facility...[and] scores of people arrested outside for engaging in civil unrest,” the owners were suing CoreCivic to terminate the lease agreement.⁴¹

The Solution

Directly impacted individuals, advocates, government oversight bodies, and journalists have all documented the nearly three decades of abuse at the Elizabeth Detention Center. As we approach the contract end date for the facility, we urge the administration to comply with New Jersey law and side with constituents over the interests of a private prison corporation.

The detention system has always been plagued by egregiously poor conditions and a culture of violence, and the EDC is no exception. Years of inspections, protests, and reporting have proven that there is no fixing it. When it comes to detention, we demand decisive action. Closing EDC is a critical step for the administration to make good on its promise to protect immigrants and move us towards a more humane immigration system.

We have only one recommendation for the Elizabeth Detention Center: the administration must immediately release everyone currently detained at the facility and shut it down.

³⁹ Kiefer, Eric. “Newark Protesters Blast NJPAC Board Member Over Prison Profits.” October 6, 2020. Patch.com. <https://patch.com/new-jersey/newarknj/newark-protesters-blast-njpac-board-member-over-prison-profits>.

⁴⁰ Garcia, Deanna. “Students and Alumni Call on Kean University to Drop Board Members Linked to ICE Detention Facility.” Documented. March 10, 2021. <https://documentedny.com/2021/03/10/students-and-alumni-call-on-kean-university-to-drop-board-members-linked-to-ice-detention-facility/>.

⁴¹ Katz, Matt. “ICE Jailer in New Jersey Is Sued By Its Landlord, Claiming Unsafe Conditions.” Gothamist. May 3, 2021. <https://gothamist.com/news/ice-jailer-new-jersey-sued-its-landlord-claiming-unsafe-conditions>.

References and Additional Resources

Advocates and Directly Impacted Individuals

1. Aganan et al. v. Rodriguez et al. Petition for writ of habeas corpus and complaint for injunctive and declaratory relief prepared by American Friends Service Committee, Immigrant Defense Project, and the NYU School of Law Immigrant Rights Clinic. Filed May 15, 2020.
https://www.ncronline.org/files/file_attachments/FreeThemAll%20EDC%20Class%20Action%20AS%20FILED.pdf.
2. Alvarado, Monsy. "36 protesters arrested at Elizabeth ICE detention center, charged with blocking street." NorthJersey.com. July 1, 2019.
<https://www.northjersey.com/story/news/new-jersey/2019/07/01/ice-detention-center-nj-protesters-arrested-obstruction-charges/1617018001/>.
3. American Friends Service Committee, New Jersey Immigrant Rights Program, and New Jersey Prison Watch Program. "Free Them All: The double crisis of human caging and COVID-19 in New Jersey and how to end it." September 2022.
https://afsc.org/sites/default/files/2023-03/AFSC%20-%20Free%20Them%20All%20NJ%20report%202022_web.pdf.
4. Appelbaum, Aliza. "Immigration activists march 12 miles from Ellis Island to Elizabeth detention facility." NJ.com. March 9, 2011.
https://www.nj.com/news/2011/03/immigration_activists_march_12.html.
5. Bakst, Eleni and Olga Byrne. "Ailing Justice—New Jersey: Inadequate Healthcare, Indifference, and Indefinite Confinement in Immigration Detention." Human Rights First. February 2018. <https://humanrightsfirst.org/library/ailing-justice-new-jersey-inadequate-healthcare-indifference-and-indefinite-confinement-in-immigration-detention/>.
6. Berg, Ulla, Kenneth Sebastian Leon, and Sarah Tosh. "Migrant Detention and COVID-19: Pandemic Responses in Four New Jersey Detention Centers." Journal on Migration and Human Security. Vol. 9(1) 44-62. 2021.
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/23315024211003855>.
7. Chan, Jennifer, Mary Small, Carl Takei, and Carol Wu. "Fatal Neglect: How ICE Ignores Deaths in ICE Detention." American Civil Liberties Union, Detention Watch Network, and National Immigrant Justice Center. February 2016. https://www.aclu.org/wp-content/uploads/legal-documents/fatal_neglect_acludwnnjic.pdf.
8. CoreCivic v. Murphy, Platkin. Complaint filed February 17, 2023.
https://s3.documentcloud.org/documents/23686412/complaint_230220_074306.pdf.
9. Corrado, Carolyn and Ruben Loyo. "Locked Up But Not Forgotten: Opening Access to Family and Community in the Immigration Detention System." American Friends Service Committee, New Jersey Advocates for Immigrant Detainees, and NYU School of Law Immigrant Rights Clinic. April 2010. <https://www.scribd.com/document/34106049/Locked-Up-But-Not-Forgotten#>.
10. Daniels, Pauline. "The Ins and Outs of the Jama Case Part I." States of Incarceration.
<https://statesofincarceration.org/story/ins-and-outs-jama-case-part-i>.
11. Debevoise, Dickinson. Jama v. Esmor Correctional Services, Inc. Opinion. March 17, 2008.
<https://casetext.com/case/jama-v-esmor-correctional-services-3>.
12. Goodman, Ariel. "'Spaces of Detention' Takes You Inside the Facilities That Criminalize Undocumented Immigrants." The Marshall Project. July 14, 2021.
<https://www.themarshallproject.org/2021/07/14/spaces-of-detention-takes-you-inside-the-facilities-that-criminalize-undocumented-immigrants/>.

13. Katz, Matt and MNYC staff. "Protesters Confront Congressmen Visiting NJ ICE Facility: 'What Are You Doing To Shut This Place Down?'" Gothamist. August 22, 2019. <https://gothamist.com/news/protesters-confront-congressmen-visiting-nj-ice-facility-what-are-you-doing-to-shut-this-place-down>.
14. Kiefer, Eric. "Newark Protesters Blast NJPAC Board Member Over Prison Profits." October 6, 2020. Patch.com. <https://patch.com/new-jersey/newarknj/newark-protesters-blast-njpac-board-member-over-prison-profits>.
15. New Jersey Alliance for Immigrant Justice. "Immigrants, Advocates Condemn Governor Murphy's Delay on Banning New ICE Detention — ICE Extends its Contract With Private Jailer in Elizabeth." InsiderNJ. August 17, 2021. <https://www.insidernj.com/press-release/immigrants-advocates-condemn-governor-murphys-delay-banning-new-ice-detention-ice-extends-contract-private-jailer-elizabeth/>.
16. "News In Brief." Prison Legal News. November 15, 2003. <https://www.prisonlegalnews.org/news/2003/nov/15/news-in-brief/>.
17. Winokur, Julie. "Detained: Meet nine of the 400,000 immigrants detained in the U.S. each year." Newest Americans. January 23, 2018. <https://newestamericans.com/detained/>

Government Oversight

1. Dunn, Ashley. "U.S. Inquiry Finds Detention Center Was Poorly Run." The New York Times. July 22, 1995. <https://www.nytimes.com/1995/07/22/nyregion/us-inquiry-finds-detention-center-was-poorly-run.html>.
2. "Father's Day Rally at the Elizabeth Detention Center, New Jersey." Representative Nadler and Representative Jeffries speak. June 18, 2018. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=78FqjEb-QS0>.
3. Office of Enforcement and Removal Operations: Condition of Confinement Inspection Worksheet re: Elizabeth Contract Detention Facility. October 2016. <https://embed.documentcloud.org/documents/6939487-2016-ERO-Inspection-Elizabeth-NJ-CCA#document/p54/a567459>.
4. Mina, Peter and Dana Salvano-Dunn. U.S. Department of Homeland Security Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties memorandum to ICE leadership. June 23, 2020. <https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/2021-12/expert-memo-cbp-ihsc-06-23-20.pdf>.
5. U.S. Department of Homeland Security Office of the Inspector General. "ICE's Inspections and Monitoring of Detention Facilities Do Not Lead to Sustained Compliance or Systemic Improvements." June 2018. <https://www.oig.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/assets/2018-06/OIG-18-67-Jun18.pdf>.

The Media

1. Aquino, Alyssa. "Immigrant Deported Right As Judge Halts ICE's Removal Plan." Law360. May 20, 2020. <https://www.law360.com/articles/1275368/immigrant-deported-right-as-judge-halts-ice-s-removal-plan>.
2. Bernstein, Nina. "Few Details on Immigrants Who Died in Custody." The New York Times. May 5, 2008. <https://www.nytimes.com/2008/05/05/nyregion/05detain.html>.

3. Bernstein, Nina. "Officials Hid Truth of Immigrant Deaths in Jail." The New York Times. January 9, 2010. <https://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/10/us/10detain.html>.
4. CBS News. "NJ Immigrant Rights Protest." December 10, 2013. <https://www.cbsnews.com/newyork/pictures/nj-immigrant-rights-protest/>.
5. Cushing, Belle, Jika Gonzalez, and David Noriega. "Immigrants Are Now on Hunger Strike in 3 ICE Detention Centers Over Coronavirus Fears." Vice News. March 20, 2020. <https://www.vice.com/en/article/pkew79/immigrants-are-now-on-hunger-strike-in-3-ice-detention-centers-over-coronavirus-fears>.
6. Dugger, Celia, "In Pursuit Of Freedom, Only to Find Prison Bars;Immigration Officials Try to Discern Those Fleeing Persecution." The New York Times. July 8, 1996. <https://www.nytimes.com/1996/07/08/nyregion/pursuit-freedom-only-find-prison-bars-immigration-officials-try-discern-those.html>.
7. "FBI Investigates CCA-Run INS Center in New Jersey." Prison Legal News. October 15, 1999. <https://www.prisonlegalnews.org/news/1999/oct/15/fbi-investigates-cca-run-ins-center-in-new-jersey/>.
8. Flores, Adolfo. "An Immigrant Who Sued ICE Is Missing After Being Deported To A Dangerous Border City." BuzzFeed News. May 28, 2020. <https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/adolfoflores/immigrant-suing-ice-deported-missing>.
9. Garcia, Deanna. "Students and Alumni Call on Kean University to Drop Board Members Linked to ICE Detention Facility." Documented. March 10, 2021. <https://documentedny.com/2021/03/10/students-and-alumni-call-on-kean-university-to-drop-board-members-linked-to-ice-detention-facility/>.
10. Garger, Kenneth and Craig McCarthy. "ICE medical staffer at NJ detention center tests positive for coronavirus." New York Post. March 20, 2020. <https://nypost.com/2020/03/20/ice-medical-staffer-at-nj-detention-center-tests-positive-for-coronavirus/>.
11. "Guards charged with mistreating immigrants." United Press International. October 13, 1995. <https://www.upi.com/Archives/1995/10/13/Guards-charged-with-mistreating-immigrants/3132813556800/>.
12. Katz, Matt and Brian Lehrer. "ICE Detention Issues in Three NJ Counties." The Brian Lehrer Show, WNYC. December 2, 2020. <https://www.wnyc.org/story/ice-detainees-hunger-strike-nj/>.
13. Katz, Matt. "ICE Jailer in New Jersey Is Sued By Its Landlord, Claiming Unsafe Conditions." Gothamist. May 3, 2021. <https://gothamist.com/news/ice-jailer-new-jersey-sued-its-landlord-claiming-unsafe-conditions>.
14. La Gorce, Tammy. "'Everybody Was Sick': Inside an ICE Detention Center." The New York Times. May 15, 2020. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/15/nyregion/coronavirus-ice-detainees-immigrants.html>.
15. Nieto Del Rio, Guilia. "ICE Quietly Extends Elizabeth Detention Center Contract With CoreCivic." Documented. August 13, 2021. <https://documentedny.com/2021/08/13/ice-quietly-extends-elizabeth-detention-center-contract-with-corecivic/>.
16. Nieto-Muñoz, Sophie. "Private Prison Firm Sues Governor Murphy In Bid To Continue Housing ICE Detainees." New Jersey Monitor. February 22, 2023. <https://patch.com/new->

[jersey/across-nj/private-prison-firm-sues-governor-murphy-bid-continue-housing-ice-detainees](#).

17. Perez Pena, Richard. "Illegal Aliens Overrun a Jail in New Jersey." The New York Times. June 19, 1995. <https://www.nytimes.com/1995/06/19/us/illegal-aliens-overrun-a-jail-in-new-jersey.html>.
18. Star-Ledger Editorial Board. "'I'm going to lose my life in this place': ICE detainees beg for release." NJ.com. March 31, 2020. <https://www.nj.com/opinion/2020/03/im-going-to-lose-my-life-in-this-place-ice-detainees-beg-for-release-editorial.html>.