

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
500 12<sup>th</sup> St., SW  
Washington, D.C. 20536



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

September 6, 2023

Ms. Jacqueline Stevens  
601 University Place, 2d floor  
Political Science Department  
Evanston, IL 60208

**RE: Stevens v. ICE 20-cv-2725**  
**ICE FOIA Case Number 2020-ICLI-00042**  
**Supplemental Release**

Dear Ms. Stevens:

This letter is a supplemental response to your client's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). Your client seeks records relating to the following Freedom of Information Act requests: 2018-ICFO-56530, 2020-ICFO-18634, 2019-ICFO-33429, 2019-ICFO-29171, 2018-ICFO-59138, and 2019-ICFO-24680. ICE has considered your request under the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552.

For this production, ICE is making a discretionary re-release of 199 pages of records. ICE has reviewed the pages and determined that 77 pages will be released in full and portions of the remaining 122 pages will be withheld pursuant to FOIA Exemptions (b)(4), (b)(6), (b)(7)(C) and (b)(7)(E) as described below. The pages will retain their original Bates numbers.

**FOIA Exemption 4** protects trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person that is privileged or confidential. This exemption covers two categories of information in federal agency records: (1) trade secrets; and (2) information that is commercial or financial, obtained from a person (which may include corporations or state governments), and privileged or confidential, which is both customarily and actually treated as private by the submitter of the information. *See Food Marketing Institute v. Argus Leader Media*, 139 S. Ct. 2356, 2362-63 (2019). I have reviewed the responsive documents, the submitter's objections to release, and relevant case law, and I have determined that portions of the responsive records are exempt from disclosure under subsection (b)(4) of the FOIA and must be withheld in order to protect the submitter's proprietary interests.

ICE has applied FOIA Exemptions 6 and 7(C) to protect from disclosure the personally identifiable information of DHS employees and third parties contained within the records.

**FOIA Exemption 6** exempts from disclosure personnel or medical files and similar files the release of which would cause a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. This requires a balancing of the public's right to disclosure against the individual's right to privacy. The privacy

interests of the non-public-facing individuals in the records you have requested outweigh any minimal public interest in disclosure of the information. Any private interest you may have in that information does not factor into the aforementioned balancing test.

**FOIA Exemption 7(C)** protects records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes that could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. This exemption takes note of the strong interests of individuals, whether they are suspects, witnesses, investigators, or individuals performing their official duties in connection with a law enforcement agency, in not being unwarrantably associated with alleged criminal activity or becoming targets for revenge by begrudged individuals. Based upon the traditional recognition of strong privacy interest in law enforcement records, categorical withholding of information that identifies third parties in law enforcement records is ordinarily appropriate. As such, I have determined that the privacy interest in the identities of the non-public-facing individuals in the records you have requested clearly outweigh any minimal public interest in disclosure of the information. Please note that any private interest you may have in that information does not factor into this determination.

**FOIA Exemption 7(E)** protects records compiled for law enforcement purposes, the release of which would disclose techniques and/or procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions or would disclose guidelines for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions if such disclosure could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law. I have determined that disclosure of certain law enforcement sensitive information contained within the responsive records could reasonably be expected to risk circumvention of the law. Additionally, the techniques and procedures at issue are not well known to the public.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Assistant United States Attorney Alex Hartzler at [Alex.Hartzler@usdoj.gov](mailto:Alex.Hartzler@usdoj.gov).

Sincerely,

Marcus K. Francis Sr.  
Supervisory Paralegal Specialist

Enclosure: 199 pages



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	<b>Carrizo Springs</b>	<b>Dilley</b>
<b>Available Land</b>	80 acres that are currently being considered for the 2000 – 4000 bed requirement; with a total available acreage of 175 on both sides of the road.	51 acres that are currently being considered for the 2000 – 4000 bed requirement; with a total of 135 acres available.
<b>Present Structures Suitable for Occupancy</b>	The current physical infrastructure can support 1260. Present housing consists of nine modular dormitories that contain 140 beds each. The service provider will be able to house 420 occupants by utilizing 3 of the 9 dormitories and the rest of the structures would be utilized for administrative purposes to be able to be fully staffed and operating by September 1 <sup>st</sup> .	The current physical infrastructure can support 1,016. The current housing consists of 85 three bedroom, one bath cottages to immediately accommodate up to 850 residents. Each cottage can accommodate 10 residents. The service provider will be able to house 500 occupants by utilizing 50 of the 85 cottages and the rest of the structures would be utilized for administrative purposes to be able to be fully staffed and operating by September 1st.
<b>Location</b>	<p>Carrizo is located in a very isolated area with little infrastructure. The facility is not near trauma centers and lacks hotels/lodging facilities. Consulate officials will be leery of traveling to Carrizo due to distance.</p> <p>Facility layout is more difficult to secure, as the proposed housing is on the perimeter and admin space is in the center.</p> <p>Laredo International Airport and San Antonio International Airport are 81 and 125 miles from the site respectively.</p> <p>There appears to be sufficient lodging facilities to support TDY personnel.</p>	<p>The site is located in Dilley, Texas, ½ mile from Interstate 35 and 69 miles south of San Antonio. Dilley is much closer to San Antonio and near Pearsall.</p> <p>Facility layout appears to be better from an operational and security standpoint due to the concentrated area for housing and admin space.</p> <p>Laredo International Airport and San Antonio International Airport are 85 and 80 miles from the site respectively.</p> <p>Lodging facilities in Dilley do not appear to be sufficient for TDY personnel but there are areas within the surrounding area that can support the surge of personnel within a 20 mile radius.</p>



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	<b>Carrizo Springs</b>	<b>Dilley</b>
<b>Timeline for Full Activation</b>	<p>By September 1, 2014, The Carrizo Springs site can provide 420 beds and re-purpose the other existing structures for the temporary provision of core services while additional modular structures are configured and delivered.</p> <p>Although there is a potential for 1260 constructed beds, they would not be operational due to the service providers staffing challenges.</p> <p>Additional beds will be added to reach the following population along this projected time frame:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">1,765 by October 1<sup>st</sup> 2,300 by November 15th</p>	<p>September 1, 2014 - The Dilley site can immediately accommodate 500 <b>beds</b>.</p> <p>Although there is a potential for 1016 constructed beds, they would not be operational due to the service providers staffing challenges.</p> <p>Additional beds will be added to reach the following population along this projected time frame:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">1,352 by September 12th 1,688 beds by September 19th 2,024 by September 26th 2,300 by October 15th</p>
<b>IT Assessment</b>	<p>This location is private property and the building was already installing fiber AT&amp;T which is helpful. ITFO believes this can be done and once the site is officially approved they will facilitate issuing and expedited circuit and equipment orders</p> <p>VTCs are needed for this location and ITFO suggested that ERO order these ASAP so they can get them installed and operational promptly. If the site is to be set up like Artesia, they would need to procure three (3) VTCs. AT&amp;T is the primary wireless provider. Owner will need to install out buildings and conduit between building prior to deployment.</p>	<p>The initial review of the site during the survey for the Permanent Space has an overall positive outlook for the technology strategy based on the information provided by CCA. The initial review of the site for the Ramp Up Space has more inherent challenges due to the existing configuration and lack of infrastructure. Many of these challenges may be able to be overcome by implementing different solutions or contingencies while the Permanent Space is being constructed.</p>



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	<b>Carrizo Springs</b>	<b>Dilley</b>
<b>Provider Capabilities</b>	<p>Carrizo does not have water or electrical power capabilities at this time. The Timeline to establish these capabilities may delay the ramp up of the facility.</p>	<p>The provider for the Dilley site, Target Logistics is the largest provider of remote housing and catering in the US and one of the largest in the world. Their parent company, Algeco Scotsman, is the largest modular company in the world with over 340,000 buildings in their fleet. In North America their buildings are branded under the name Williams Scotsman. Because of this unique relationship Target has sufficient inventory on hand and can deliver all modular units needed to expand and operate the location in Dilley, Texas without needing to order product from a third party provider (which adds expense and a long lead time) and without having to go to the market for used modular housing (which impacts quality and availability).</p> <p>The support space to support population as it increases will be brought in to match. New modular units brought onto the site will require a certificate of occupancy (CO). Target has been in touch with the county/town officials and they believe these CO's can be obtained to support the ramp as detailed.</p> <p>The housing configuration for the permanent family residential beds will be a 1,536 square foot dormitory style buildings that hold 28 beds. There will be 14 beds on each side with a partition in the middle</p>



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	<b>Carrizo Springs</b>	<b>Dilley</b>
<b>Medical Labor Supply</b>	<p>There is a shortage of medical professionals in the Carrizo Springs area that can staff the operation. The Carrizo Springs population (5,433) is small and it is located in a remote area (117 miles from San Antonio). In order to bring a large facility on line the community must have an appropriate referral services.</p> <p>A 2000 bed or 4000 bed facility will take close to 100/140 medical staff members to deliver the services under the residential standards. There must be a hiring pool of medical professionals who will be able to work at the location under a contract. The Carrizo location is so isolated that trying to bring on enough staff to provide the required services would require that we either pay a premium salary and/or establish housing for staff to stay overnight when they drive from places like San Antonio and Laredo. ICE would likely be utilizing a large majority of medical professionals for this operation which could cause a strain with the local community and government officials.</p> <p>Healthcare: This location offers a level 4 ER and a 35 bed inpatient area. Full Lab/Radiology/Adult/Female/Pediatric Services Level 1-3 Trauma and specialty care would have to be referred to the Community of San Antonio (118 miles) or Laredo (81 miles).</p>	<p>Overall staffing medical will be less of a challenge at Dilley vs Carrizo Springs.</p> <p>There is a shortage of medical professionals in the Dilley area. The population is small (3,929) however it is closer in proximity (69 miles) to San Antonio which will increase the labor supply.</p> <p>This will also provide an advantage for detailed ICE, CIS and EOIR staff as their access and travel time to sufficient numbers of suitable lodging and transportation is much easier in either San Antonio or Pearsall to the north and Laredo to the south.</p> <p>Healthcare: This location offers a level 4 ER and a 18 bed inpatient area. Full Lab/Radiology/Adult/Female/Pediatric Services Level 1-3 Trauma and specialty care would have to be referred to the Community of San Antonio . Frio hospital in Pearsall is 20 minutes away and can also be utilized for all services to include full OB pre and post delivery services. San Antonio (69 miles).</p>



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	<b>Carrizo Springs</b>	<b>Dilley</b>
<b>Acquisition Strategy</b>	Challenge with utilizing IGSA with State and Local in one state and property in another and associated political challenges.	