

CARCERAL INSTITUTION & CITY: OTAY MESA DETENTION CENTER, SAN DIEGO



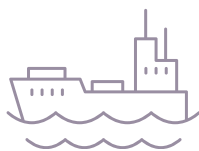
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Medical neglect: People detained at OMDC report that they have difficulty accessing adequate medical care. They report problems accessing medications and medical equipment consistently; routinely being offered over the counter pain management for serious conditions, rather than appropriate tests and treatments; and difficulty making appointments with specialists.



COVID-19 failures: CoreCivic utterly failed to respond appropriately for most of the pandemic, failing to provide adequate PPE, limiting testing, and neglecting proper quarantine protocols. They released dozens of medically vulnerable detainees only when forced, due to an ACLU lawsuit. As a result, hundreds of people in custody at OMDC became sick and on May 6th, 2020 one person - Carlos Escobar Meijia - died.

Federal Marshall's custody: In addition to detaining asylum seekers and people fighting their deportations, OMDC is also used by the US Marshals Service to detain people charged with an immigration related federal offense, such as illegal re-entry. The number of people held under Marshall's custody, as well as their conditions, is not always included in information about OMDC. They are an invisible population.



KEY INDUSTRIES

The largest sectors of San Diego's economy are defense/military, tourism, international trade, and research/manufacturing, respectively. San Diego hosts the largest naval fleet in the world.



LABOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ISSUES IN THE REGION

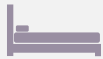
In September 2023, the Environmental Health Coalition had a big success getting New Leaf Biofuel to back away from plans for a pipeline in Barrio Logan, a neighborhood choked with diesel pollution.

FACTS AND FIGURES



- **Contract Parties:** CoreCivic holds a contract with ICE and US Marshals Service.
- **ICE contract terms:** After AB 32 was passed outlawing private prisons in California, a 5 year contract between ICE and CoreCivic was signed in December 2019. The contract stipulates two 5 year extensions, but the legality of the contract is questionable. The current facility opened in 2010, taking over from the San Diego Contract Facility that opened in 1977. The land the facility is on is privately owned by CoreCivic.
- **Contract paid each year for Otay Mesa = \$138Million**
- The City of San Diego or San Diego County has the power to discontinue the land use permit of this carceral facility.

CORE CIVIC



Guaranteed minimum payment by ICE

750 BEDS

(Regardless of occupancy)



Total Capacity

896

As August 21st, 2024, there are
1,239 persons at OMDC.



Paid annually by ICE

\$138M

LINKS TO FURTHER READING

- Compounding Suffering During a Pandemic: A Case Study in ICE's Detention Failures
<https://www.afsc.org/story/compounding-suffering-during-pandemic>
- America's Immigration System is a COVID Spreader
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/americas-immigration-system-is-a-covid-superspreader/>
- Testimony from Leticia Sierra formally detained at Otay Mesa Detention Center
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GOcNSeszCwM>



WHO TO CONTACT TO GET INVOLVED

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