Team, let’s add how we would internally investigate claims of misconduct as well through OPR. I know we have some standard language somewhere...

Flagging DHS interest on this one as well, so will require additional clearances.

DEADLINE: ASAP

ISSUE: The Guardian requesting comment on new allegations of torture of Cameroonian detainees at Winn County Correctional. The complaint letter is attached for reference.

STATEMENT: (Cleared ERO/OPLA New Orleans)

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) does not comment on specific matters presented to the Office of the Inspector General, which provides independent oversight and accountability within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

ICE is firmly committed to the safety and welfare of all those in its custody. ICE provides safe, humane, and appropriate conditions of confinement for individuals detained in its custody. ICE has a series of detention standards that ensure that individuals with medical conditions or other specific needs receive exceptional care while in our custody, which exceed the standards of most local jails and prisons. Individuals in our custody are also provided access to legal representation, translation services, recreation, and a multitude of other offerings.

EXTERNAL BACKGROUND:

The health, safety, and welfare of those in our care remain a top priority and concern for ICE personnel. ICE is committed to a culture that promotes safety and has zero-tolerance for abuse of any kind.

Through an aggressive inspections program, ICE ensures its facilities follow ICE’s National Detention Standards (NDS). All ICE facilities are subject to regular inspections, both announced and unannounced, and the Winn Correctional Center has repeatedly been found to operate in compliance with ICE’s rigorous Performance Based National Detention Standards.