

Sep 8, 2021 wfmj.com

**Youngstown private prison suicide probe finds non-compliance of detention standards A federal investigation into the suicide of an immigrant being held at Youngstown's private prison has found that the prison failed to comply with detention standards.**

A federal investigation into the suicide of an immigrant being held at Youngstown's private prison has found that the prison failed to comply with detention standards. The Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General released findings last week of an investigation conducted jointly with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Office of Professional Responsibility, and the ICE Health Service Corps. The findings jointly investigated the death of an ICE detainee who, according to authorities, hung himself at the Northeast Ohio Correctional Center. The report does not identify the inmate or say when the suicide occurred. Investigators say they interviewed NEOCC facility staff and medical staff and reviewed the autopsy report, coroner's report, medical records, incident report, and policies and procedures. The findings state that NEOCC failed to comply with four requirements of the ICE Performance-Based National Detention Standards 2011. The areas of non-compliance pertained to significant self-harm/suicide prevention/intervention, detention files, admission/release, and custody classification system, according to the findings. In addition, five areas of concern were noted regarding the inmate's medical care, safety, and security at NEOCC, although they were not violations of detention standards. The joint investigation did not identify any criminal violations. 21 News has reached out to CoreCivic for a response to the findings. NEOCC is one of about 70 correctional institutions operated by the CoreCivic around the country. Early Monday, an inmate who was found hanging at NEOCC was pronounced dead after being taken to a hospital. NEOCC officials issued a statement saying the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction inmate committed suicide. Youngstown Police and the Mahoning County Coroner are investigating.