

DHS disputes dire conditions at Alligator Alcatraz

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OCHOPEE, Fla. (CBS12) — The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is denying reports of improper living conditions for detainees at Alligator Alcatraz after reports of a hospitalization surfaced.

[Reports this week](#) have claimed that the detainees at the detention facility in the Florida Everglades are surrounded by toilets that don't flush, temperatures ranging from freezing to sweltering, little to no access to showers, less confidential calls with an attorney, and even a hospitalization, according to the [Miami Herald](#).

However, DHS took to X to debunk those claims, stating that the detainees are properly cared for.

Furthermore, the Assistant Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, [Tricia McLaughlin](#), said on X that no detainees at Alligator Alcatraz have been hospitalized. She continued to state that one was transported but was returned to the detention center in an hour and a half.

According to our news partners at CBS News Miami, one of the detainees living in poor conditions at the detention center is Cuban reggaeton artist Leamsy La Figura, who was arrested in Miami-Dade County for assault. He claims there's no water to shower, the lights stay on all day, and the food is limited and sometimes spoiled.

In a phone call to CBS News Miami, La Figura described the conditions he and the other detainees are facing.

"I am Leamsy La Figura. We've been here at Alcatraz since Friday. There's over 400 people here. There's no water to take a bath, it's been four days since I've taken a bath," he said.

The facility is run by the state of Florida. CBS News Miami has reached out to the Florida Department of Emergency Management (FDEM) for comment on the alleged conditions.

Additionally, CBS News Miami said that Mayor Daniella Levine Cava of Miami-Dade is [asking for access](#) to the detention facility due to concerns over reported deaths and dangerous conditions at immigration centers across the state.

Mayor Levine Cava has said that a total of five people have died while in immigration custody in Florida so far.