

# Management & Training Corporation (MTC)

## Rap Sheet

Founded in 1981, Management & Training Corporation (MTC) is a privately-held company based in Centerville, Utah. It is the largest Job Corps program operator and the third largest operator of private adult correctional and detention facilities. Just over 4,000 immigrants are detained in 5 MTC facilities: Imperial Regional Detention Facility in California, Otero County Processing Center in New Mexico, as well as Bluebonnet Detention Facility, El Valle Detention Facility and IAH Polk Adult Detention Facility in Texas. MTC used to run 2 prisons in Arizona: Marana and Kingman.

**Both contracts were cancelled by the state.** In July 2025, the state of Arizona sold the Marana prison back to MTC for \$15M. Reportedly, MTC is seeking a contract with ICE to convert the facility to an immigration detention center.

### MTC's Dangerous Record in Arizona

- In 2015, there was a **series of riots at the Kingman Prison** that **injured 8 officers and 20 inmates and damaged the facility** so badly that more than a third of the prisoners had to be relocated. Two minimum security units were **left "uninhabitable."** The Department of Corrections had to **deploy 96 of its special tactical force** unit in order to quell the riots after several days of rioting. ("Ariz. sends special forces to quell Kingman prison riot, *Arizona Republic*, 7/5/15)
- The root cause of the riot was inmates responding to **dismal prison conditions and a pattern of excessive force from staff.** ("Sheriffs: Mistreatment of prisoners caused Kingman Riot," *Arizona Republic*, 8/11/15).
- Gov. Doug Ducey **cancelled the contract** after the state released a scathing report about numerous issues at the Kingman prison, including a "culture of casual indifference toward staff and training." ("Arizona cuts ties with private-prison operator over Kingman riot," *Arizona Republic*, 8/27/15)
- In 2010, three prisoners escaped from the Kingman prison. The three got **past locked doors, avoided surveillance cameras and ground and fence sensors, and went unnoticed by guard towers and ground patrol while they cut a hole in some perimeter fencing.** This may be in part because reports show that **guards had learned to ignore alarms** because the system was so faulty and false alarms so common. ("Prison chief says that state didn't detect prison flaws," *Arizona Republic*, 8/19/10).
- **It took MTC over an hour to notify the Mohave County Sheriff's Office** that the men were at large, and **the public was not notified until the next day.** ("Arizona cons' escape raises many questions," *Arizona Republic*, 8/3/10).
- **While on the run from police, the escapees murdered an elderly couple from Oklahoma who were found dead and badly burned** in their camper in New Mexico. ("Arizona prison escapees links to N.M. killings," *AP*, 8/7/10).
- After the Kingman escapes, a security audit of Arizona's private prisons revealed that MTC's Marana prison had **broken security cameras, swamp coolers that didn't work, insecure doors and windows on housing units, inadequate perimeter lighting, and broken control-room panels that had been broken for several months and were not fixed "due to fiscal reasons"** ("2010 escape at Kingman an issue for MTC's bid," *Arizona Republic*, 8/11/11).

- When the state went back **seven months later, MTC still hadn't fixed** the control room panel, security cameras, or the doors and windows, despite promises that they would ("2010 escape at Kingman an issue for MTC's bid," *Arizona Republic*, 8/11/11).
- After the escapes, MTC dragged its feet on fixing security problems at Kingman. When the state pulled its prisoners from the unit and withheld payment as a consequence, **MTC threatened to sue the state for \$10 million**. Eventually, the state caved in and **paid the company \$3 million for empty beds** ("Arizona prison oversight lacking for private facilities, *Arizona Republic*, 8/7/11).

## **MTC's Broken Promises**

- MTC was **fined 38 times by the state of Arizona for failing to fill staff vacancies** in its Arizona prisons. The company was fined **\$843,964 for vacancies at Kingman and \$53,885 for vacancies at Marana** ("2010 escape at Kingman an issue for MTC's bid," *Arizona Republic*, 8/11/11).
- MTC's Marana prison had **a staff turnover rate of 36.4% in 2010 and 56.8% in 2011**. There was **extensive use of overtime** to fill empty positions. (Arizona Department of Corrections, "Contracted Private Prisons Assessment").
- A DOC investigation found that **MTC skimmed on training for guards**, providing just 2 hours of training compared to DOC's required 8 hours. (Arizona Department of Corrections, "Contracted Private Prisons Assessment").
- There have been at least 25 documented cases in which **MTC was fined for violation of labor standards**, totaling **nearly \$29 million**. It shows that the company has paid over \$25.5 million in fines for 20 'wage and hour' violations, a \$5 million fine for 'kickbacks and bribery,' \$42,000 for three cases involving labor relations, and \$9,600 for one health and safety violation. (Good Jobs First, <https://violationtracker.goodjobsfirst.org/parent/management-and-training-corporation>)
- **MTC left a Texas county high and dry when they pulled out of the contract to run a juvenile facility because they were not making enough money**. The county **lost \$837,000 in just a few months** after taking over the facility. In addition, the county took a hit on its credit rating. County Commissioner Charles Baskett complained, "had we terminated our lease and not attempted to operate, both **Standard and Poors and Moody threatened to lower our bond rating to BBB...** They (County Commissioners Board) said they were worried about losing our bond rating, and that's why we should continue to operate the facility. We lost it (bond rating) anyway." ("Defunct juvenile jail draws debate," *Hood County News*, 2/1/06).
- An investigation by the US Dept. of Labor found that **MTC had not been paying its employees properly over a two year period** between October 2003 and September 2005. The company has paid **\$486,000 in back wages to just over 260 current and former guards** ("Utah company pays back wages to security employees," *KSL Utah*, 2/1/07).
- Immigration and Custom Enforcement (ICE) renegotiated its contract with MTC in Texas because the **detention center was half empty** and **MTC was not paying guards the level of wages required by ICE**. Between 2006 and 2010, **guards were paid only \$8 or \$9 an hour when they were supposed to be paid \$14.50**. MTC has been **dragging its feet about paying the back pay amounts** and also owes the former employees for the pay difference as well as amounts due from 401k plans and other funds ("New ICE plan may benefit Willacy economy," 6/1/11).