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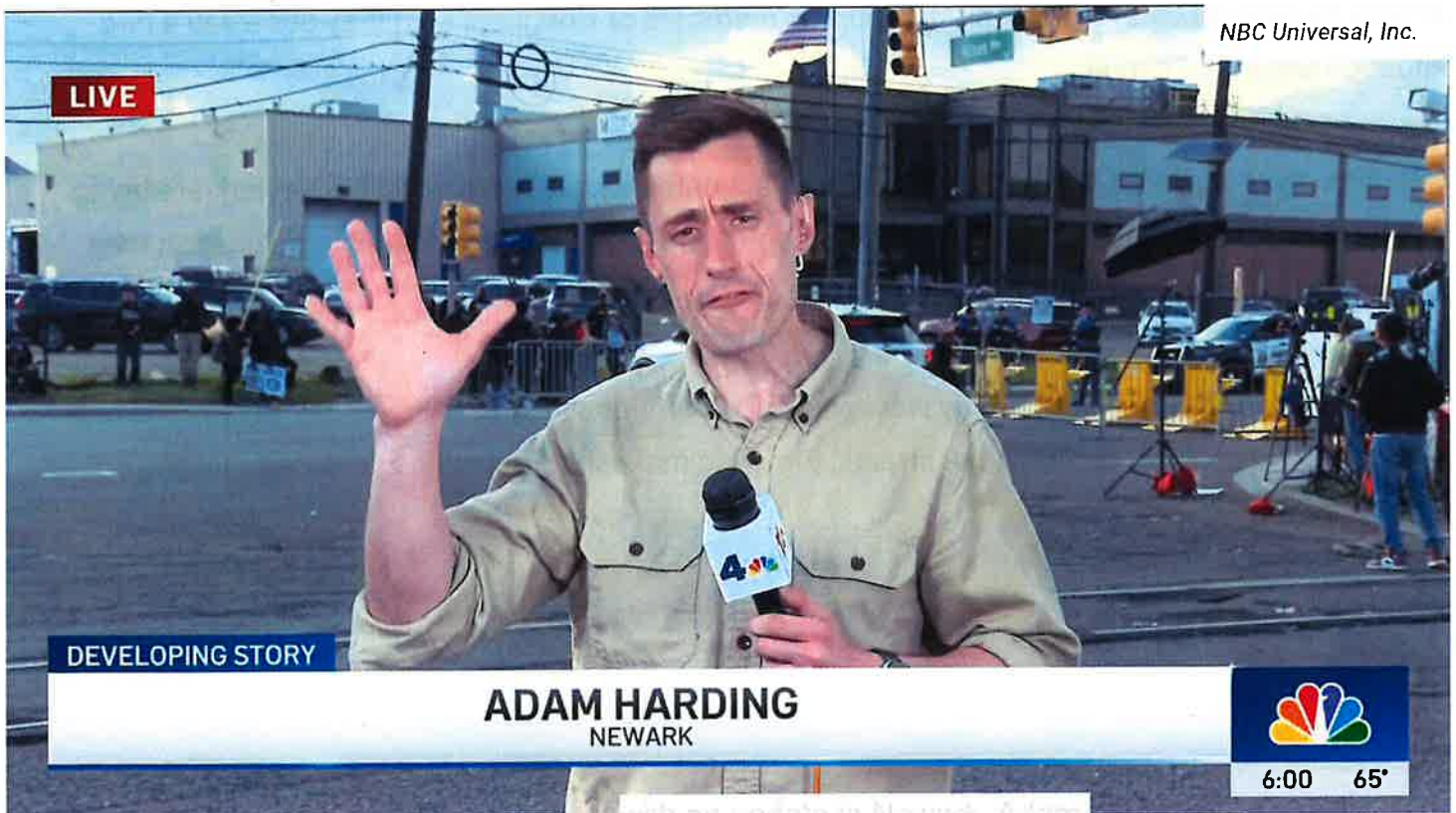
NEW JERSEY

Border czar Tom Homan ate same meal as Delaney Hall detainees, sources tell NBC News

New Jersey officials promised a continued law enforcement presence outside of the ICE facility as protesters rail over allegedly maggot-infested food and inhumane treatment for detainees.

By **Jennifer Millman** • Published June 1, 2026 • Updated on June 1, 2026 at 10:35 pm

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A curfew will be in place again in Newark after days of violence outside Delaney Hall, the ICE detention facility. Elected officials have been teaming up with law enforcement to ease tension outside the facility, including moving protesters to a different location. NBC New York's Adam Harding reports.

Two people familiar with the visit tell NBC News U.S. Border czar Tom Homan ate a meal over the weekend at Newark's Delaney Hall, where ongoing protests over detainees' food and treatment have prompted fiery law enforcement clashes and a mandatory nightly curfew.

Homan showed up at the facility, New Jersey's largest ICE detention center, unannounced on Saturday, and ate at the same time as detainees, so he got the same food and the same portions, the two sources tell NBC News.

One source told NBC News that Homan described the food as "fine," and reported nothing wrong with it. Neither said what he ate.

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Crowds started to gather outside the federal facility, New Jersey's largest ICE detention center, more than a week ago, protesting what they allege is inedible food, horrid conditions, and inadequate access to medical care. It came as Democratic members of Congress said they observed a dire situation within the center.

U.S. Rep. Jerry Nadler, a Manhattan Democrat, said detainees at Delaney Hall in Newark are being given small portions of food that "very often" contain maggots and that the only medication they receive is Tylenol.

Protests escalated as Memorial Day weekend kicked off Friday night. Officials say people started setting tires and chairs on fire in the streets, throwing makeshift projectiles, and weaponizing police shields.



A WNBC reporter and her photojournalists, who were covering the ongoing protests, were ordered out of their news van and **stepped into a cloud of tear gas**. There was a standoff in the streets.

New Jersey news

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Saturday, the day the sources told NBC News that Homan visited, saw some of the largest crowds yet, as both protesters and counter-protesters, particularly members of the Proud Boys, clashed outside the facility.

Newark Mayor Ras Baraka ordered the 9 p.m. - 6 a.m. curfew late Saturday night following back-to-back nights of clashes between protesters and State Police, recently assigned to the facility by Gov. Mikie Sherrill.

"This is a challenging time for New Jersey. I know we'll rise up to it," Sherrill said, calling for cooler heads to prevail.

It covers the half-mile area around Delaney Hall. The escalating response from local officials comes after Sherrill ordered State Police to establish designated protest zones in the name of public safety.

"Our values are always to protect peaceful protests. We have to make sure we have a safe area right now, there are weapons that have been recovered. We have to make sure the area is safe," said the state's acting Attorney General, Jennifer Davenport.

Multiple arrests have been made since the protests started. According to two senior law enforcement officials, at least 50 people were charged Sunday night with curfew violations at Delaney Hall. A number of those arrested were residents of other states.

There have been no reports of serious injuries.

Under the curfew announced this weekend, Doremus Avenue, the main road running alongside the facility, is closed to "pedestrian traffic" every night starting at 9 p.m. until 6 a.m. the next morning, according to the mayor. Vehicle access will also be limited to people with "official business" in the area.

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