

October 7, 2020

TO:

Assistant Director for Detention Management

FROM:

Lead Compliance Inspector The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

SUBJECT: Annual Inspection of the Jena LaSalle Detention Facility

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the ICE Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) 2011 of the Jena LaSalle Detention Facility in Jena, Louisiana during the period of October 5-7, 2020. This is a DIGSA facility.

The inspection was performed under the guidance of Members were:

Subject Matter Field	Team Member
Detainee Rights	
Security	
Medical Care	
Medical Care	
Safety	

Type of Inspection

This is a scheduled annual inspection, which is performed to determine overall compliance with the ICE PBNDS 2011 for Over 72 hour facilities. The facility received a rating of Meets Standards during the September 2019 annual inspection.

Inspection Summary

The Jena LaSalle Detention Facility is currently accredited by:

- The American Correctional Association (ACA) Yes
- The National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) Yes
- The Joint Commission (TJC) No
- Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Yes

Standards Compliance

The following information is a summary of the standards that were reviewed and overall compliance that was determined as a result of the 2019 and 2020 PBNDS annual inspections:



2019 Annual Inspection	
Meets Standards	41
Does Not Meet Standards	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	1

2020 Annual Inspection	
Meets Standards	41
Does Not Meet Standards	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	1

The inspection team identified four (4) deficient components in the following three (3) standards:

Hold Rooms – 2 Key and Lock Control – 1 Special Management Units- 1

Facility Snapshot/Description

The Jena LaSalle Detention Facility is located in Jena, Louisiana. The facility is owned and operated by the Geo Group. Inc.

The

facility houses all classification levels. Detainees are classified by ICE prior to their arrival.

The main facility is inside the secure perimeter and there are three additional buildings outside the secure perimeter. The main facility is surrounded by two sixteen-foot-high chain link fences supplemented with razor ribbon top and bottom and an electric stun fence. Surveillance cameras offer visibility to the entire perimeter and interior movement corridors. The facility is equipped with a 199-surveillance camera network which is monitored 24 hours a day by central control officers. All exterior building doors and interior security gates/doors are under constant camera surveillance and controlled by central control staff.

There are five housing units divided into sub-sections for a total of fourteen separated living areas. Eight of the units have 96 beds; four of the units have 80 beds; and one unit has 72 beds. The facility has one special management unit (SMU) comprised of twelve two-bed cells. There were twelve detainees in segregation status during the inspection. The facility has also dedicated part of one living area to serve as a COVID-19 housing unit; there were 27 detainees assigned to the unit during the inspection.

Each living area has a common dayroom which is equipped with a television and fixed table/chair units for detainees to eat their meals, play games and gather for conversation, except for SMU. Electronic tablets are available for all detainees to send and receive emails, check their account balances, access LexisNexis, make telephone calls, play games, read books, participate in video-visits, send requests directly to facility staff and ICE/ERO personnel, and file grievances. Tablets also include the LexisNexis collection, the local handbook, and all posted announcements and bulletins. Detainees are provided indoor and outdoor recreation.

Inspectors interviewed eight English and non-English speaking detainees with some assistance from the language line interpreters. Additional interviews were scheduled for Wednesday morning, October 7, 2020 but were cancelled by the OIC office due to all available personnel responding to an incident on the grounds. The situation did not resolve until just prior to close-out. Of the detainees interviewed, they generally felt safe in the facility and alleged no mistreatment by staff or other detainees. There were complaints about the quality of the food, its small portions, and the lack of chicken on the menu. These concerns were discussed with the food service manager by the Safety SME. The menu meets RDA requirements and the daily calorie count is 2,900. Chicken entrees are served eighteen times in the current 35-day cycle menu. No further action was necessary. There was a complaint from three of the females, all



from the same housing unit, stating they were being confined in their cells and only allowed out for two hours a day. The Safety SME discussed this allegation with the OIC and the health services administrator (HSA). Those detainees were assigned to a COVID-19 wing. Safety precautions are dictating their confinement and limited movement until the set incubation period has lapsed. The OIC and HSA are in agreement with the current strategy. No further action will be taken. There were no substantive concerns raised regarding treatment by medical staff, and some of the detainees praised the medical staff for the attention and treatment of their COVID-19 symptoms. Other minor medical concerns raised were discussed with the HSA by the medical SME. In all cases, proper medical treatment had been provided and off-site follow-up medical appointments will be scheduled when COVID-19 conditions permit. There were no issues with the law library, access to outdoor recreation, living area/shower cleanliness, the grievance system, or knowledge of programs and services available to them.

The inspector's assessment as to the general cleanliness of the facility could not be determined due to the remote nature of the inspection.

Detainee telephone services and electronic tablets are provided by Talton Communication. Medical services are provided by IHSC personnel and some local contract professionals. Food service and maintenance operations are provided by Geo Group, Inc. employees. ICE detainees are not charged medical copays.

Areas of Concern/Significant Observations

The inspection was conducted remotely and inspectors were unable to personally observe practices and procedures within the facility. The inspection team relied upon photographs and/or videos to validate the observation of many standards.

Recommended Rating and Justification

The Lead Compliance Inspector recommends that the facility receive a rating of Meets Standards unless unobserved practices and conditions are contrary to what was reported to the inspection team. The facility complies with the ICE Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) 2011 for Over 72 hour facilities. No (0) Standards were rated as Deficient and one (1) standard was Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining forty-one (41) standards were found to be in compliance.

LCI Assurance Statement

The findings of compliance and noncompliance are accurately and completely documented on the G-324A Inspection Form and are supported by documentation in the inspection file. A call-in out brief was conducted at the facility and in addition to the entire Nakamoto Group, Inc. Inspection Team, the following were present:

