

March 14, 2019

TO:

Assistant Director for Detention Management

FROM:

Lead Compliance Inspector The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

SUBJECT: Annual Detention Inspection of the Rio Grande Detention Center

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the ICE Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) 2008 of the Rio Grande Detention Center in Laredo, TX, during the period of March 12-14, 2019. This is an IGSA facility.

The annual inspection was performed under the guidance of Lead Compliance Inspector. Team members were:

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

# **Type of Inspection**

This is a scheduled annual inspection, which is performed to determine overall compliance with the ICE PBNDS 2008 for Over 72 hour facilities. The facility received a rating of Meets Standards during the March 2018 inspection.

### **Inspection Summary**

The Rio Grande Detention Center 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) No

# **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 2018 and 2019 PBNDS 2008 compliance annual inspections:



| 2018 Inspection         |    |
|-------------------------|----|
| Meets Standards         | 39 |
| Does Not Meet Standards | 0  |
| Repeat Finding          | 0  |
| Not Applicable          | 2  |

| 2019 Inspection         |    |
|-------------------------|----|
| Meets Standards         | 39 |
| Does Not Meet Standards | 0  |
| Repeat Finding          | 0  |
| Not Applicable          | 2  |

The inspection team identified four (4) component deficiencies in the following two (2) standards:

Medical Care -1, which is a repeat deficiency Detainee Handbook -3

### **Facility Snapshot/Description**

The Rio Grande Detention Center is operated by The GEO Group, Inc. The facility is located fifteen miles south of Laredo, Texas bordering the Rio Grande River and Mexico.

ICE detainees are kept separate from non-ICE detainees.

The compound is comprised of eight structures. The secure portion facility is enclosed by two twelve-foot chain link fences, which are supplemented with razor ribbon and a microwave detection system centered between the fences. There is a paved perimeter road around the secure portion of the compound that is patrolled by an armed officer 24 hours a day. There are 252 surveillance cameras which monitor the entire perimeter and critical movement and common areas inside the facility.

There is one administrative building and one maintenance building located outside the secure fenced perimeter. Inside the secure perimeter there is one support services building, which also houses the female special management population, five general population housing units configured into dormitory settings ranging from 64 to 84 beds and one male special management unit. Two of the housing units are dedicated to ICE detainees. Housing unit day rooms are furnished with televisions, telephones, fixed tables and seats and ample open space. Each detainee is assigned a personal unsecured property storage bin; locks are not provided. During the inspection two of the housing units, one ICE and one non-ICE, were quarantined due to a mumps outbreak.

The inspection team toured the housing units' multiple times during the inspection and detainees were interviewed each time. Interviews involved LEP and English-speaking detainees. Interpreters and the language line were used when canvassing detainees. None of the detainees expressed any concerns about their treatment or safety. There were no complaints about the quality of the food, medical care, access to recreation, the law library, telephones, visiting or ICE personnel. Detainees were satisfied with all conditions of their confinement.



The atmosphere in the housing units was relaxed and quiet. The majority of security staff are bilingual. The cleanliness inside the living units, including showers and bathrooms was average. A case manager is assigned to each housing unit and maintains office space in the unit. ICE personnel are generally onsite five days a week. Facility command staff make shift rounds through each housing unit daily.

Medical services are provided by Wellpath personnel. There are no medical co-payments. Food and maintenance services are provided by GEO personnel. The overall facility maintains an average level of cleanliness.

#### **Areas of Concern/Significant Observations**

There were no areas of concern or significant observations.

# **Recommended Rating and Justification**

The Lead Compliance Inspector recommends that the facility receive a rating of Meets Standards The facility complies with the ICE Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) 2008. No (0) standards were found Does Not Meet Standards and two (2) standards were Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining thirtynine (39) 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. An out brief was conducted at the facility and in addition to the entire Nakamoto Group, Inc. Inspection Team, the following were present:

• ICE Officials –
• Facility Staff –

, Lead Compliance Inspector

March 14, 2019

Printed Name of LCI Date