

August 15, 2019

Assistant Director for Detention Management

FROM:

Lead Compliance Inspector The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

**SUBJECT:** Annual Detention Inspection of the Worcester County Jail

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the ICE National Detention Standards (NDS-Over 72 Hours/SAAPI 2011) of the Worcester County Jail in Snow Hill, Maryland during the period of August 13-15, 2019. This is an IGSA facility.

The inspection was performed under the guidance of the compliance Inspector. Team 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 NDS for Over 72 hour facilities. The facility was last inspected in August 2018.

### **Inspection Summary**

The Worcester County Jail is currently accredited by:

- The American Correctional Association (ACA) No
- The National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) No
- 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 2018 and 2019 annual inspections:



2018 Annual Inspection	
Meets Standards	36
Deficient	0
Repeat Deficiency	0
Not Applicable	3

2019 Annual Inspection	
Meets Standards	37
Deficient	0
Repeat Deficiency	0
Not Applicable	2

The inspection team identified nineteen (19) deficient components in the following twelve (12) standards:

Correspondence and Other Mail - 1, which is a repeat deficiency

Detainee Handbook - 1

Food Service - 3, one of which is a repeat deficiency

Recreation - 1

Terminal Illness, Advanced Directives and Death - 1

Environmental Health and Safety - 3, one of which is a repeat deficiency

Post Orders - 2

Security Inspections - 1

Special Management Units (Administrative Segregation) - 1

Special Management Units (Disciplinary Segregation) - 2

Tool Control - 2

Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention - 1

# **Facility Snapshot/Description**

The Worcester County Jail is owned and funded by the Worcester County, Maryland government and operated by the Worcester County Board of Commissioners. The facility is located in southeastern Snow Hill, Maryland; bordered by other county buildings and wooded lots. The celled, indirect supervision facility houses adult male and female local detainees and ICE detainees of all security levels.

ICE detainees are not comingled with other detainees. Security is supplemented with numerous video cameras in the common areas. Each cell block has a dayroom and some have small outdoor fenced areas attached that detainees may inhabit for an hour each weekend day for "fresh air" periods. The facility offers a minimum of one hour per day of outdoor recreation in a large outdoor recreation area weather permitting. During inclement weather, detainees are offered one hour of recreation in one of two large gymnasiums. Otherwise, detainees are able to move about the cell blocks from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. daily. Each housing unit has a television, telephones, playing cards, and board games available.

During the inspection, detainees interacted with staff and each other without apparent restraint. Detainees were responsive to questions from the inspectors. The atmosphere was calm. The staff were professional in appearance and demeanor. Overall, facility staff are knowledgeable about basic standards requirements.

No less than 62 detainees were interviewed during the inspection, including 29 formal interviews conducted in private settings, using translation services as necessary. Three detainees complained of undercooked food. The Safety SME checked selected items during meal service and determined that during the inspection the food was fully cooked. There were no grievances filed regarding undercooked food during the inspection period. One detainee asked if he could have a light in his cell to read by after lights out. The facility does not provide individual reading lights. The lights go out at 11:00 p.m. A detainee stated that she had an implant that she feared was cancerous and that she was not getting the medication for her



bladder issues that she received in Mexico. The Medical SME checked the medical record and interviewed medical staff. There was no record of her requesting sick call about the implant or bladder medication. During a previous incarceration at this facility, she was scheduled for an appointment with an OB/GYN; however, she transferred out prior to the appointment. Therefore, the medical department rescheduled her for an appointment with an OB/GYN. One detainee stated that she needed surgery for an unknown condition. The Medical SME investigated and learned that she is scheduled for a consultation based on information contained in an older medical record that was received at the facility two days prior to the inspection. A detainee stated that she had headaches and problems with her ears and throat and that she had blood taken but had not been given the results of the lab work. The Medical SME checked the medical record and interviewed medical staff and determined that she had been treated for an upper respiratory problem. The medical staff scheduled her to be seen to discuss the results of the labs. Several detainees complained that the housing units were too hot; which they are. The temperature in the housing units was over the standards' maximum of 78 degrees. A remodeling project is currently underway at the facility that will include the installation of air conditioning units for the housing areas. One detainee stated that she was denied gloves during her work at the laundry by one specific officer but refused to name the officer. She was advised that grievances to ICE and calls to the OIG could address the issue while protecting her identity. She was also advised that retaliation or retribution for her pursuit of a remedy was prohibited. The Safety SME determined that gloves were available for all workers in the laundry but could not verify whether any particular staff person had denied them to any detainees. One detainee appeared to display signs of depression during her formal interview. She was immediately scheduled for mental health intervention and seen by mental health staff prior to the end of the inspection. One detainee complained that he did not like the menu selections. The Safety SME confirmed that the menu is certified by a dietician and that the offerings are diverse. Confidential interviews revealed no issues and LEP interviews indicated that detainees were not having difficulty receiving services or assistance when needed. All detainees that were interviewed stated that they felt safe at the facility.

Medical services are contracted to WellPath. All other services are provided by Worcester County employees.

#### **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 Acceptable. The facility complies with the ICE National Detention Standards (NDS). No (0) standards were found Deficient and two (2) standards were Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining thirty-seven (37) standards were found to be in compliance.

## **LCI Assurance Statement**

The findings of compliance and non-compliance 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 - , and various other supervisors and staff.

, Lead Compliance Inspector	August 15, 2019	
Printed Name of LCI	Date	