

September 13, 2018

TO:

Assistant Director for Detention Management

FROM:

Lead Compliance Inspector The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

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

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the ICE National Detention Standards (NDS) of the Cass County Jail in Plattsmouth, NE, during the period of September 11-13, 2018. This is an IGSA 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 NDS for Over 72 hour facilities. The facility was not inspected in 2017.

### **Inspection Summary**

The Cass 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 NDS annual inspection:



2017 Annual Inspection	
Acceptable	N/A
Deficient	N/A
At Risk	N/A
Repeat Finding	N/A
Not Applicable	N/A

2018 Annual Inspection	
Acceptable	37
Deficient	0
At Risk	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	2

The inspection team identified twenty-five (25) deficient components in the following thirteen (13) standards:

Admission and Release—2
Classification System—1
Correspondence and Other Mail—2
Detainee Handbook—2
Food Service—3
Funds and Personal Property—1
Access to Medical Care—2
Emergency Plans—1
Environmental Health and Safety—6
Security Inspections—1
Tool Control—1
Transportation (Land)—1
Staff Detainee Communication—2

#### **Facility Snapshot/Description**

The Cass County Jail is located in Plattsmouth, NE, approximately twenty miles south of downtown Omaha, NE. The facility is owned by Cass County, NE, and operated by the Cass County Sheriff's Office. The Cass County Sheriff's Office has an IGSA with the U. S. Marshals Service (USMS) and houses ICE detainees at the facility under the auspices of that IGSA.

The facility is a four-story, indirect-supervision jail that houses detainees in cells and dormitories. The first floor is the garage and vehicle sally port area; the second floor houses the agency's administrative offices; the third floor contains the detainee housing units; and the fourth floor contains the master control center which is perched above the housing units in such a manner as to span the living areas and provide visual observation of every unit through large windows. ICE detainees are intermingled with non-ICE detainees throughout the facility according to classification level.

Each of the general population housing units has a dayroom area equipped with tables and chairs; one television for entertainment and one for perpetual scrolling of facility rules during waking hours; telephones and various board games. Detainees have access to a large recreation area for one hour per day, Monday through Friday. The recreation area does not meet the requirements to be considered outdoor recreation since the louvers which can be opened to provide fresh air are routinely closed and only infrequently opened.



The inspection team visited the housing units several times throughout the inspection. Additionally, all ICE detainees housed at the facility on the second day of the inspection were interviewed; the interviews were confidential. All but two of the detainees interviewed were limited English proficiency. The detainees voiced no concerns regarding life/safety issues. Detainees were generally satisfied with the interaction, responsiveness and professionalism of facility staff, and access to medical services, the law library, telephones and recreation.

Some detainees complained that the water in the showers was too hot. The Safety SME followed up on this complaint and found that the water temperature in the showers ranged between 110-115 degrees which falls within the parameters established by the standard. Detainees also questioned why they are charged for certain over-the-counter (OTC) medications. Per the OIC, ICE detainees are charged fifty cents per dose for OTC medications such as ibuprofen, Tylenol, Sudafed and Benadryl. Lastly, several detainees stated they are charged for replenishment of hygiene items. Follow-up with the OIC confirmed that ICE detainees are initially provided hygiene items upon admission but are charged for replenishment of hygiene items unless they are indigent.

Sanitation throughout the facility was observed to be above average. Overall, the atmosphere at the facility was generally calm with no obvious indicators of high stress. The entire facility is climate controlled.

Health services are provided by the Cass County Sheriff's Office. Food service is provided via a contract with Summit Food Service, LLC. Detainee telephone services and video visitation are provided by Encartele.

# **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. 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-324 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

September 13, 2018

Printed Name of LCI

Date