

October 9, 2020

TO: [REDACTED]  
Assistant Director for Detention Management

FROM: [REDACTED]  
Lead Compliance Inspector  
The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

SUBJECT: **Annual Detention Inspection of the Essex County Corrections Facility**

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed a remote annual inspection for compliance with the ICE Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS 2011) of the Essex County Corrections Facility in Newark, New Jersey during the period of October 7-9, 2020. This is an IGSA facility.

The inspection was performed under the guidance of [REDACTED], Lead Compliance Inspector. Team members were:

Subject Matter Field	Team Member
Detainee Rights	[REDACTED]
Security	[REDACTED]
Medical Care	[REDACTED]
Safety	[REDACTED]
Medical Care	[REDACTED]

### **Type of Inspection**

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

### **Inspection Summary**

The Essex County Corrections 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 annual inspections:

<i><b>2019 Annual Inspection</b></i>	
Meets Standard	40
Does Not Meet Standard	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	2

<i><b>2020 Annual Inspection</b></i>	
Meets Standard	40
Does Not Meet Standard	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	2

There were no deficient components identified by the inspection team.

### **Facility Snapshot/Description**

According to the administrative sergeant, the Essex County Corrections Facility is operated under the jurisdiction of the Essex Department of Corrections. The facility is located in the port district of Newark, New Jersey across the Hudson River from New York City. The four-story structure houses adult male and female detainees from Essex and surrounding counties, adult male ICE, U.S. Marshal detainees and adult male State of New Jersey Department of Corrections inmates. The facility houses all classification levels. [REDACTED]

The facility consists of 38 separate general population housing units. Housing units are comprised of six dormitories ranging from 48 to sixty beds, and six two-bed housing units consisting of 32 to 64 rooms. All housing units are governed by a direct supervision model of management. There is one special management unit (SMU) dedicated for ICE detainees. It consists of eight one-bed cells. No detainees were confined in the SMU during the inspection.

Photo images and videos confirmed that each housing unit contains a dayroom area consisting of two televisions, fourteen to sixteen informational tablets on which detainees can file requests/grievances, send personal e-mails, check their commissary account balances, play games or watch movies, order commissary, and place telephone calls. Each dayroom has a bank of mounted telephones and table/chair settings where detainees eat their meals and can sit for games, conversation, or watching television programs. According to the activity schedule, general population detainees have access to outdoor recreation daily. An outdoor recreation area adjoins each housing unit giving detainees open access during their waking hours.

No less than twenty detainees were interviewed remotely by the inspection team. All detainees indicated they were made aware through multiple methods of communication from the facility on how to contact the OIG Hotline. No detainee had attempted to call the OIG Hotline. Detainees stated that they are provided three meals per day. Six detainees stated that the food is “sometimes bland to the taste” but were provided salt and pepper packages to adjust taste to their liking. The safety SME discussed these issues with the food service administrator and noted daily caloric targets are high and the meals are prepared in accordance with approved recipe cards. Most detainees were satisfied with the food. Detainees indicated they were provided cleaning supplies, razors, opportunities to receive haircuts, and able to enjoy outside recreation during waking hours. All of the detainees indicated they were treated well by staff. Only one detainee indicated he had filed a formal grievance. All detainees indicated they were aware of the grievance system.



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LEP interviews were conducted using interpreters and the language line. The detainees voiced no concerns regarding life/safety issues. Detainees were satisfied with the interaction from facility staff and the treatment they receive from the officers. They were also satisfied with the access and responsiveness from on-site ICE/ERO personnel and facility staff when addressing their complaints, requests, and grievances. There were no substantive concerns registered regarding access to medical services, clothing issue, laundry exchange schedules, telephone access, visitation procedures, cleanliness, access to recreation areas, conditions of confinement, or the variety of program activities.

ICE detainees are not charged medical co-payments. Food services are contracted to GD Correctional Services, LLC. Medical services are contracted to CFG Health Systems, LLC. All other services are provided by Essex County employees.

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

There were no areas of concern or significant observations from this remote inspection. The inspection was conducted remotely and inspectors were unable to personally observe practices and procedures within the facility. When possible and where offered, photos and videos and other documentation was viewed to assist in verification as needed; however, because this was a remote inspection in some cases the inspector was unable to observe the detail necessary to verify compliance.

### **Recommended Rating and Justification**

The Lead Compliance Inspector recommends that the facility receive a rating of Meets Standard 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. No (0) standards were found Does Not Meet Standard and two (2) standards were Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining forty (40) 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 remotely and in addition to the entire Nakamoto Group, Inc. Inspection Team, the following participated in the conference call:

- ICE Officials – [REDACTED]
- Facility Staff – [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Lead Compliance Inspector  
Printed Name of LCI

October 9, 2020  
Date