

December 16, 2020

TO:

Assistant Director for Detention Management

FROM:

Lead Compliance Inspector The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

SUBJECT: Annual Detention Inspection of the Montgomery Processing Center

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed a remote annual inspection for compliance with the ICE Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS 2011) of the Montgomery Processing Center in Conroe, Texas during the period of December 14-16, 2020. This is a Contract Detention Facility (CDF).

The annual inspection was performed under the guidance of 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 PBNDS 2011 for Over 72-hour facilities. The facility received a rating of Meets Standards during the December 2019 inspection.

Inspection Summary

The Montgomery Processing Center is currently accredited by:

- The American Correctional Association (ACA) Yes
- 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 2019 and 2020 PBNDS 2011 compliance annual inspections:



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

2020 Annual Inspection	
Meets Standards	40
Does Not Meet Standards	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	3

The inspection team did not identify any deficiencies.

Facility Snapshot/Description

The Montgomery Processing Center (MPC) is located in Conroe, Texas. There are several law enforcement/corrections entities nearby including the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office and county jail, Joe Corley Processing Center, Texas Department of Public Safety, and the Montgomery County Mental Health Facility. The facility, which is owned by The GEO Group, Inc., operates under a contract with ICE and houses adult male and female ICE detainees of all classification levels.

ICE officials maintain an on-site presence in the facility.

According to the compliance administrator, MPC is a single two-story building with a secure perimeter surrounded by an outer twelve-foot J-bar chain link fence and an inner eight-foot chain link fence which is supplemented by razor ribbon at the top and bottom. The entire perimeter is under camera surveillance and is continuously monitored by central control officers. A paved road encircles the compound which is patrolled 24 hours a day by armed officers. All exterior door egress is controlled by central control officers. The facility has 527 surveillance cameras. The housing units and all support departments are accessible off one long main corridor. All detainee movement outside of the housing units is escorted.

The facility has both dormitory and cell design housing for general population. There are two restricted housing units (RHU); one for males and one for females. Housing units are under 24-hour direct supervision. General population housing units have an adjacent outdoor recreation area to which detainees have continuous access during daylight hours. There are three large soccer fields/yards which are available to all general population housing units on a rotating schedule and following COVID-19 protocols.

Photo images confirmed each housing unit provides a dayroom equipped with three televisions (one for English, one for Spanish, and one for closed circuit), telephones, various table-top board games, and two microwave ovens. The general population housing units have two computer kiosks equipped with LexisNexis in the "quiet room". Detainees have access to the kiosks during facility waking hours in addition to the required five hours per week access to the law library. Electronic tablets are provided and permit detainees to submit requests to facility and ICE staff, place commissary orders, and review the local handbook and ICE National Detainee Handbook. For a fee, detainees may also watch movies, play games, text with family and friends, and have video visits. Vending machines are available in the housing units.

Seventeen detainee interviews were conducted remotely using the language line when necessary. Detainees stated that they felt safe at the facility and were able to access services. Detainees were asked about the quality of the food and the responses were generally positive. Two detainees stated that rice and beans were served "all the time", but both detainees stated that they have plenty to eat. The Safety SME reviewed the menu and confirmed that the menu rotation was within standard guidelines.



One detainee stated that she did not receive the detainee handbook. She received a handbook when she first arrived as confirmed by the receipt in her detention file. A case manager met with the detainee during the inspection and provided her with a new handbook. The detainee also asked to be seen by medical staff. The HSA scheduled her for an appointment during the inspection.

One detainee stated that "she is running out of clothing and underwear and did not receive her winter clothing". Documentation confirmed that the detainee had been provided her weather-appropriate clothing exchange. This detainee was issued a sweater upon admission. The case manager met with the detainee and resolved the issues with personal property.

Two detainees stated that the video visitation platform "has been cutting in and out". The IT specialist was assigned to follow up with the concern. Detainees were interviewed by facility staff to resolve the issue. According to the specialist, this is the first complaint of this nature that he has received. Overall, the majority of detainees were satisfied with their access to facility and ICE personnel. No detainee had tried to use the OIG hotline.

Detainees are not charged co-pay fees for medical, dental, or mental health services. Medical services are provided by IHSC. All other services are provided by The GEO Group, Inc.

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. 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. No (0) standards were found Does Not Meet Standard and three (3) standards were Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining forty (40) standards were found to be Meet Standards.

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 remotely and in addition to the entire Nakamoto Group, Inc. Inspection Team, the following participated:





or December 16, 2020
Printed Name of LCI Date