



August 8, 2019

TO: [REDACTED]
Assistant Director for Detention Management

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

SUBJECT: **Annual Detention Inspection of the West Texas Detention Facility**

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the ICE National Detention Standards (NDS) of the West Texas Detention Facility in Sierra Blanca, Texas, during the period of August 6-8, 2019. 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]
Medical Care	[REDACTED]
Safety	[REDACTED]

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 received a previous rating of Acceptable during the August 2018 annual inspection.

Inspection Summary

The West Texas Detention Facility 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 NDS annual inspections:



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

2019 Annual Inspection	
Acceptable	37
Deficient	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	2

The inspection team identified eighteen (18) deficient components in the following nine (9) standards:

- Access to Legal Materials – 1
- Admission and Release – 1
- Classification System – 1
- Correspondence and Other Mail – 3, one of which is a repeat deficiency
- Food Service – 6
- Detainee Grievance Procedures – 1
- Detainee Telephone Access – 1
- Detention Files – 1
- Environmental Health and Safety – 3

Facility Snapshot/Description

The West Texas Detention Facility is located in Sierra Blanca, Texas, approximately 85 miles southeast of the El Paso International Airport. The facility is owned and operated by LaSalle Corrections. [REDACTED] It currently houses adult male and female ICE and U.S. Marshal Service detainees. All ICE detainees are classified as either medium or low custody. [REDACTED]

The facility, constructed in 2004, is a compound of six buildings. The site is enclosed by two twelve-foot perimeter chain link fences equipped with razor ribbon rows on the top and bottom of the exterior fence and on the top of the interior fence. There is a perimeter road encircling the compound that is patrolled by an armed officer on a continuous but irregular schedule. The exterior doors of the building are alarmed and controlled by central control officers. The entire perimeter is under monitored camera surveillance. The facility surveillance network consists of 117 cameras that also monitor all housing units, common areas, and movement corridors. All movement in the facility is escorted.

All ICE detainees are housed in four housing units which range in configuration and size from 78 to 108-bed general population dormitories to one special management unit (SMU - housing for administrative and disciplinary segregation status detainees). The SMU consists of 24 one-bed cells equipped with their own showers and wash basins. No ICE detainees were housed in segregation status during the inspection. SMU detainees have their own outdoor recreation area. SMU detainee are on a fifteen-minute documented watch.



Each of the general population detainee housing units has a dayroom area, two televisions, four telephones, various board games, and one microwave oven. All detainees have access to outdoor recreation yards at least one hour each day, five days a week. General population ICE detainees are under constant direct supervision in their housing area. The one telephone to 25 detainees ratio required by the standard is not met in the 108-bed dormitory.

Numerous detainees were interviewed during the inspection in open and confidential settings. Interviews with LEP detainees were assisted by the use of a language line. The detainees voiced no concerns regarding life/safety issues. Detainees were generally satisfied with the interaction and responsiveness from facility staff and the on-site deportation officers. There were no substantive concerns registered regarding medical services, the law library, telephones, or recreation. Some detainees voiced complaints about the quantity of the food served. They were generally satisfied with the taste. The safety SME confirmed that the menu and food portions meet the nutritional requirements as approved by a registered dietitian. The daily calorie count target is 2600 calories. No problems with food quality were observed. Hot and cold food temperatures were within the requirements of the standard. Conversations with detainee while eating the August 7th, 2019 noon meal revealed no substantive concerns.

Sanitation throughout the common areas of the facility was above average. The housing unit bathrooms, shower, and wash basins are maintained at an average level of cleanliness. Most of the special management unit cells were marked with graffiti and many of the cell air vents were blocked with toilet paper.

Health, food, and maintenance services are provided by LaSalle Corrections. Detainee telephone services are provided by Correct Commissary and Supplies. ICE maintains an on-site office presence on a Monday through Friday schedule. The facility does not charge co-pays for medical, mental health, or dental care.

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-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 – [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] representing the El Paso field office



- Facility Staff - [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted], Lead Compliance Inspector

August 8, 2019

Printed Name of LCI

Date