

August 16, 2018

TO:

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)/SAAPI PBNDS 2011 of the Worcester County Jail in Snow Hill, MD during the period of August 14-16, 2018. This is an IGSA facility.

The annual inspection was performed under the guidance of ance Inspector. Team Members were:

Subject Matter Field	Team Member
Security	
Detainee Rights	
Medical Care	
Safety	
Medical Care	

## **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 2017 annual inspection.

### **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 2017 and 2018 NDS annual compliance inspections:



2017 Annual Inspection	
Acceptable	37
Deficient	0
At Risk	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	2

2018 Annual Inspection	
Acceptable	36
Deficient	0
At Risk	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	3

The inspection team identified four (4) deficient components in the following four (4) standards:

Correspondence and Other Mail - 1, which is a repeat deficiency Food Service – 1, which is a repeat deficiency Funds and Personal Property- 1 Environmental Health and Safety- 1

# **Facility Snapshot/Description**

The Worcester County Jail is owned and funded by the Worcester County, MD government and operated by the Worcester County Board of Commissioners. The facility is located on the southeastern outskirts of Snow Hill, MD, bordered by other county buildings and wooded lots.

ICE detainees are not comingled with other detainees in any manner. Security is supplemented with a wide range of video camera coverage in the common areas. Each cell block has a dayroom, and some have small outdoor plots attached that the facility refers to as "fresh air" areas. The facility offers a minimum of one hour per day of outdoor recreation in a large outdoor recreation area, weather permitting. Detainees are also offered one hour per day of recreation in one of two 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, and sedentary games available.

During the inspection, detainees interacted with staff and each other without apparent restraint. Detainees freely approached inspectors. The atmosphere was calm, and complaints that were voiced by detainees were done so civilly. The staff appeared professional and, to a person, were polite and resourceful when dealing with the inspection team.

No less than 65 detainees were interviewed during the inspection, including thirteen detainees that were formally interviewed in a private setting, using the language line as necessary. Five detainees complained that they were not offered outdoor recreation daily. The facility reported that they had to restrict outdoor recreation on several occasions recently due to the heat index. One detainee stated that the cell lights should be turned off during the day, due to the heat. The Detainee Rights inspector verified that the facility leaves the cell lights off during daylight hours, except for count times and cleaning. A detainee stated that she was not getting her medication.



The Medical SME investigated the complaint and determined that she had a prescription, but on occasion she had failed to get up when called for pill call. One detainee stated that her money had not transferred yet from another facility. The facility stated that they will make a request to get the funds transferred. A detainee stated that he needed a new pair of glasses. The medical staff reported, and the Medical SME verified, that they have made the request and are waiting for ICE approval. A detainee stated that he wanted larger food portions. The Safety SME determined that the menu and serving sizes were approved by a dietician, as required by the standard. Several detainees complained of high temperatures in the cell blocks. The facility does not have air conditioning. The Safety SME took temperatures in every housing unit and none were within the industry standard in terms of heat, or frankly even close to the recommended industry standard of 78 degrees Fahrenheit; no housing unit temperature tested below 84 degrees Fahrenheit. The warden reported that she is currently undergoing a process to get air conditioning funded by the County and installed, but a completion date was not foreseeable at present. The medical department reported no heat-related injuries or illnesses during the inspection period. Confidential interviews revealed no issues, and LEP interviews indicated that detainees were not having difficulty receiving services or assistance when needed.

Medical services are contracted to Correct Care Solutions. 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 three (3) standards were Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining thirty-six (36) 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 outbrief was conducted at the facility and in addition to the entire Nakamoto Group, Inc. Inspection Team, the following were present:

