

July 25, 2019

TO: [REDACTED]  
Assistant Director for Detention Management

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

SUBJECT: **Annual Detention Inspection of the Nevada Southern Detention Center**

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the ICE Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS 2008), Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention (PBNDS 2011) and Significant Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention (PBNDS 2011) of the Nevada Southern Detention Center in Pahrump, Nevada, during the period of July 23-25, 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 PBNDS for Over 72 hour facilities. The facility received a previous rating of Meets Standards during the July 2018 annual inspection.

### **Inspection Summary**

The Nevada Southern Detention Center 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 2018 and the 2019 annual inspections:

<b>2018 Annual Inspection</b>	
Meets Standard	40
Does Not Meet Standard	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	1

<b>2019 Annual Inspection</b>	
Meets Standard	40
Does Not Meet Standard	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	1

The inspection team identified one (1) deficient component in the following standard:

Classification System - 1, which is a Priority component

### **Facility Snapshot/Description**

The Nevada Southern Detention Center, owned and operated by CoreCivic, is located in Pahrump, Nevada, approximately sixty miles northwest of the McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas, Nevada. Construction of the facility commenced in 2008 and the facility opened in 2010. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Low and medium custody male and female ICE detainees and all custody levels of U.S. Marshals Service non-ICE detainees are housed at the facility. [REDACTED]

The compound is one single story building surrounded by two thirteen-foot chain link fences enhanced with multiple rows of razor ribbon between the fences. The top portion of the interior fence is a non-lethal stun fence. The entire perimeter is under camera surveillance which is continuously monitored by central control officers. There is a paved perimeter road that encircles the entire compound which is patrolled 24 hours a day by an armed officer. All exterior doors are alarmed. The housing units and all support departments are accessible off one main corridor. All movement is observed by officers.

The facility has eleven general population housing pods. Eight of the general population housing pods are dormitory style and three are cell design. Additionally, there are two restricted housing units; one for males and one for females. ICE detainees occupy three of the general population dormitory style housing pods. [REDACTED] The housing pods are under direct supervision by an officer around the clock; multiple video cameras are also located throughout the facility. An outdoor recreation area is attached to each housing pod and detainees have daily access to the area during daylight hours except during meals, counts, and emergencies. Each housing pod has dayroom space, tables, telephones, televisions, PlayStations, microwave ovens, pull-up exercise bars, and kiosks for ordering commissary and communicating via email with facility staff and, for a fee, family and friends. Additionally, a room inside each housing pod contains a computer equipped with LexisNexis and two visitation video monitors.

The entire facility is climate controlled. Cleanliness and sanitation throughout the facility was observed to be very good. The facility conducted a fire drill of a housing pod during the inspection.

All housing pods occupied by ICE detainees and common areas of the facility used by ICE detainees were visited and/or observed during the inspection. Numerous detainees were interviewed; some interviews were in housing pods with either individuals or small groups of detainees and several were private and confidential and included detainees with limited English proficiency (LEP). A language line was used to facilitate some of the LEP interviews. Interviews included detainees who had recently arrived at the facility and some who had been housed at the facility for longer periods of time. With one exception, the de-

tainees voiced no concerns regarding life/safety issues. One female detainee from China stated she had experienced problems with another detainee of a different nationality (Korean) during her stay. However, the other detainee has since been transferred from the facility. All other detainees interviewed stated they felt safe and were generally satisfied with the interaction, responsiveness, and professionalism of facility and ICE staff and with access to medical services, mail, the law library, telephones, visitation, and recreation. Detainees expressed general satisfaction with the quantity and quality of food provided. Two female detainees from China stated they had no complaints about the quality or quantity of the food but were not accustomed to “Western” food, i.e., the food served in this country. Some detainees complained about the discomfort caused by sleeping on a thin mattress. The OIC had previously mentioned this issue to the inspection team and informed the team that new mattresses are on order. Two detainees stated that medical appointments were not timely subsequent to submitting a request. The medical SME reviewed the medical records of these detainees and found that one was seen in a reasonable amount of time of his request; the medical department had no record of the other detainee submitting a request. And lastly, some detainees complained about the lack of legal materials available in Spanish. The facility provides ICE detainees access to legal materials through the LexisNexis Immigration Prison Library.

On July 12, 2019, a non-ICE detainee was found dead in his cell. Per the OIC, the other non-ICE detainee housed in the cell with the victim is considered a suspect. The death remains under investigation by law enforcement officials.

Detainee telephone services are provided by ICSolutions. Food services are provided via a contract with Trinity Services Group. All other services are provided by CoreCivic.

ICE detainees do not incur medical co-pays.

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

### **Priority Component Rated Does Not Meet Standard**

#### **Classification System**

Component 6: Level 1 detainees may not have felony convictions that included an act of physical violence, and may be not housed with a Level 2 detainee with a history of assaultive or combative behavior.

Finding: The facility has two general population housing pods for male ICE detainees and one for female ICE detainees. Level 1 (low custody) and Level 2 (medium custody) detainees are housed in each of the pods. A review of facility classification documentation and criminal background histories provided by ICE, a review of the ICE housing roster, and interviews with facility staff substantiated that Level 2 (medium custody) detainees with a history of assaultive or combative behavior are housed with Level 1 (low custody) detainees. The facility classification policy does not differentiate between medium custody detainees with or without a history of assaultive or combative behavior.

Recommendation: Level 1 (low custody) detainees should not be housed with Level 2 (medium custody) detainees with a history of assaultive or combative behavior. The facility classification policy and process should be revised to identify Level 2 (medium custody) detainees with a history of assaultive or combative behavior so that they are not housed with Level 1 (low custody) detainees.

#### **Recommended Rating and Justification**

The Lead Compliance Inspector recommends that the facility receive a rating of Meets Standards. The facility complies with the ICE Performance Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS 2008), the Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention and Intervention Standard (PBNDS 2011) and the Significant Self-



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Harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention Standard (PBNDS 2011). No (0) standards were found Does Not Meet Standard and one (1) standard was Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining forty (40) 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]

- Facility Staff - [REDACTED]

- U.S. Marshals Service - [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Lead Compliance Inspector

July 25, 2019

Printed Name of LCI

Date