


U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
180 Ted Turner Drive, SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303



**U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement**

MEMORANDUM FOR: Tae D. Johnson  
Assistant Director, Custody Management

THROUGH: Jay M. Brooks  
Deputy Assistant Director, Detention Management Division

FROM: Sean W. Gallagher   
Field Office Director, Atlanta Field Office

SUBJECT: Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center, N. Charleston, SC  
Waiver for Strip Searches

Purpose

Provide a waiver for the *Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center*, as it relates to the Admission and Release, Search of Detainee and Property (Key: B) (05), within the 2000 National Detention Standards (NDS), which states "Detainees are strip searched only when cause has been established and not as routine. Non-criminal detainees are not strip-searched but are patted down, unless reasonable suspicion is established."

Background

*The Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center* is a 1900 bed Intergovernmental Service Agreement (IGSA) facility located in North Charleston, South Carolina. *The Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center* houses approximately 240 ICE detainees, daily, for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

On December 20, 2016, the Nakamoto Group, Inc. conducted an Annual Inspection of *the Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center* for compliance with the 2000 National Detention Standards. The Nakamoto Group, Inc. found that *the Sheriff Al Cannon Detention Center* was deficient in this Element because the facility conducts strip searches of detainees upon transfer in from any other facility.

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[www.ice.gov](http://www.ice.gov)

Discussion

For discussion, Field Offices should ensure that waivers for strip searches are based upon the following:

- The waiver should apply to initial book-in strip searches only.
- It should only apply to visual strip searches.
- The current facility policy on strip searches should be reviewed and attached to the submitted waiver.

In the event that the waiver is to apply more broadly to any strip search upon return from an outside location:

- The waiver will apply to visual strip searches only.
- The strip search is permissible upon returning from outside visits unless the detainee has been under direct and constant supervision for the duration of the trip.
- The current facility policy on strip searches should be reviewed and attached to the submitted waiver.

Recommendation:

I recommend that you approve the waiver to NDS Searches of Detainees (Key: MO) (6).

Approve / date Jmb 2/1/17

Disapprove / date \_\_\_\_\_

Modify / date \_\_\_\_\_

Needs more discussion \_\_\_\_\_