

January 25, 2019

TO:

Assistant Director for Detention Management

FROM:

Lead Compliance Inspector The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

**SUBJECT:** Annual Detention Inspection of the Otay Mesa Detention Facility

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the ICE Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) 2011 of the Otay Mesa Detention Facility in San Diego, CA during the period of January 23-25, 2019. This is a CDF.

The inspection was performed under the guidance of members were:

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

# **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 previous rating of Meets Standards during the January 2018 inspection.

### **Inspection Summary**

The Otay Mesa Detention Facility 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) No

# **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 annual compliance inspection:



2018 Annual Inspection	
Meets Standards	41
Does Not Meet Standards	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	1

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

## **Facility Snapshot/Description**

The Otay Mesa Detention Facility is privately owned and operated by CoreCivic under contract with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The facility is located about 25 miles South of San Diego, CA on the border of Mexico.

The physical plant was built in 2015. The facility has fifteen general population housing units, of which eleven are dedicated to ICE detainees. Nine of the housing units are for general population. The remaining two housing units are segregation blocks; one 32 cell unit with two beds in each for males, and one six cell unit with two beds in each for females. ICE detainees neither mingle nor are they housed with non-ICE detainees.

The compound is a single-story building encircled by a secure perimeter comprised of dual chain link fencing spaced twelve foot apart. Between the fences there are multiple coiled rows of razor ribbon attached to the top and bottom of the fence lines. The interior perimeter is enhanced with a stun fence. The entire perimeter is surrounded by a paved road patrolled by two armed officers 24 hours a day. The entire perimeter and facility are under the constant stewardship of control center officers monitoring a 220 surveillance camera network. All exterior doors are alarmed and monitored by control center officers.

Detainees have access to televisions, board games, cards, library books and a microwave in the dayrooms. Telephones are provided in the dayrooms. Each housing unit has direct access to outdoor recreation which is available to all detainees for at least two hours each day. During the inspection, detainees were observed socializing in the dayrooms and recreating in the outdoor yard areas. Conditions of confinement were orderly and the facility is kept in an exceptional level of cleanliness. Detainees were engaging with the inspectors during their frequent tours through the housing units. The staff and ICE personnel interactions with the detainees carried no sense of uncertainty and the detainees' responses to these encounters appeared contented. Detainees freely approached facility staff and the inspection team to converse.

The inspection team visited the housing units several times to interview all detainees wishing to speak to them. Inspectors conducted seven confidential LEP detainee interviews using the language line and on-site bi-lingual staff, in excess of sixty interviews, with English/Spanish speaking detainees in the housing units and common areas and formal interviews with six transgender detainees. None of the detainees voiced any substantive concerns regarding their safety, conditions of confinement, meals, medical care, treatment by staff, access to ICE personnel or the availability of activities and programs.

Medical services are provided by IHSC and food services are provided by Trinity Services. All other services are provided by CoreCivic employees. ICE detainees do not incur medical co-payments.



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

There were no areas of concern or significant observations identified during this inspection.

# **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) 2011. Fortyone (41) standards were found to Meet Standards. One (1) standard is Not Applicable.

### **LCI Assurance Statement**

Printed Name of LCI

The findings of Meets Standards and Does Not Meet Standards 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 –
Facility Staff –

 , and various other CoreCivic staff

January 25, 2019

Date