

May 5, 2022

TO:

Acting Assistant Director Custody Management

FROM:

Lead Compliance Inspector The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

SUBJECT: Biennial Inspection of the Cibola County Correctional Center

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed a biennial inspection for compliance with the ICE Performance Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS 2011 with 2016 revisions) of the Cibola County Correctional Center in Milan, NM during the period of May 3-5, 2022. This is an IGSA.

The inspection was performed under the guidance of Lead Compliance Inspector. Team Members were:

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

Type of Inspection

This is a scheduled biennial inspection which is performed to determine overall compliance with the ICE PBNDS 2011 for Over 72-hour facilities. The facility received a rating of Meets Standards during the May 2021 inspection.

Inspection Summary

The Cibola County Correctional Center is currently accredited by:

- The American Correctional Association (ACA) Yes
- 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 2021 and 2022 compliance annual inspections:



2021 Annual Inspection		
Meets Standards	41	
Does Not Meet Standards	0	
Repeat Finding	0	
Not Applicable	2	

2022 Annual Inspection		
Meets Standards	40	
Does Not Meet Standards	0	
Repeat Finding	0	
Not Applicable	3	

The inspection team identified six (6) deficient components in the following four (4) standards:

Environmental Health and Safety – 1 Hold Rooms in Detention Facilities – 1 Post Orders – 1 Tool Control – 1 Telephone Access – 2

Facility Snapshot/Description

Detainee telephone services and tablets are provided by Talton Communications, Inc. Food service is provided Trinity Services Group and commissary services are provided by Keefe. Other services are provided by CoreCivic. Detainees are not charged co-pay fees for medical, dental, or mental health services. The compound consists of eight structures all interconnected by enclosed or covered walkways. It is surrounded by two twelve-foot chain link fences supplemented with razor ribbon on the top. The inside fence line is supplemented with electric stun circuitry. The entire perimeter is encircled by a road that is patrolled by an armed officer on each shift. Surveillance cameras offer visibility around the entire perimeter and into each housing unit, all of the common areas, down the corridors, and into the outdoor recreation yards. All exterior building doors are under constant camera surveillance and controlled by central control staff. The facility surveillance camera network is monitored 24 hours a day. The facility operates under a unit management structure. Each housing unit has a unit team that is comprised of a supervisor (unit manager), command staff, and counsellors. There are individual housing units; each configured into a -tier design. All of the units have sub-sections comprised of either -bed cells -bed or and/or a dormitory setting. There is one special management unit (SMU) that provides and cells for housing disciplinary and administrative segregation status detainees. The health care unit has rooms used for medical observation placements. ICE detainees are not housed or allowed to comingle with non-ICE detainees. Each living area, except the SMU, has a common dayroom that is equipped with a television, fixed table/chair units for detainees to eat their meals, play games, and socialize. There are an adequate number of showers, toilets, and wash basins in each unit. Each housing unit has electronic tablets and kiosks on which detainees can: purchase commissary items; send and receive emails; conduct video visits; file grievances; submit requests directly to designated recipients; make telephone calls; read books; access the facility handbook; read bulletins/announcements; access LexisNexis, activity/program schedules: and fee-based entertainment services.



The facility has dedicated portions of its housing units to serve as COVID-19 cohort units; there were two housing units under quarantine status during the inspection due to the number of new arrivals. There were no active COVID-19 cases among the detainees and one active case among staff.

The housing units have televisions, telephones, board games, and electronic tablets for detainees to use. Detainees are offered outdoor recreation seven days per week for at least two hours per session. While in the housing unit, the detainees spend the majority of their time socializing, watching television, playing cards and board games. The atmosphere in the housing units was relaxed, and the units were quiet. Observed interaction between detainees and staff were cordial. Staff interviewed were knowledgeable and well-versed in the requirements of the PBNDS 2011 Standards. Staff routinely use the language line to communicate with detainees.

The inspection team conducted a total of six informal detainee interviews and three formal detainee interviews in a private, confidential setting. The interviews were conducted using the language line. The detainees stated that they felt safe at the facility and that they were treated with respect. The detainees had received a handbook during the admission process. The detainees stated that ICE personnel visit the housing units on a regular basis and answer their questions. There were no concerns regarding the food or healthcare. Detainees were aware of the process to contact OIG, the consulates, and free legal providers.

During the inspection, optimal compliance was found while reviewing the following standards: Admission and Release, Special Management Units, Use of Force, Telephone Access, Law Libraries and Legal Materials, and Recreation.

Due to COVID-19 this was a hybrid inspection with one inspector working remotely (Medical QMC). The facility provided the inspection team all requested documentation as evidence of practices and procedures within the facility. In addition to these materials, staff were interviewed by the inspection team. All staff interviewed were well versed in facility policy and the requirements of the standards and were responsive to all requests made by the inspection team. Sanitation throughout the facility was average.

Areas of Concern/Significant Observations

There were six non-ICE deaths during the inspection period. On 03/16/2022, a 27-year-old male USM inmate committed suicide by hanging. On 02/16/2022, a 21-year-old male USM inmate committed suicide by hanging. Both cases are still under investigation. On 02/15/2022, an 18-year-old male USM inmate died; cause of death is unknown and under investigation and autopsy is pending. On 11/14/2021, a 20-year-old female USM inmate died of Fentanyl overdose. On 09/25/2021, a 32-year-old male USM inmate died in the hospital of natural causes. On 06/25/2021, a 29-year-old male USM inmate died of unknown causes.

This inspection was conducted as a hybrid inspection wherein four inspectors were on-site and one inspector worked remotely. The results and findings, while accurately reported herein, are therefore potentially less thorough than an inspection conducted with the full inspection team on-site.

Recommended Rating and Justification

The Lead Compliance Inspector recommends that the facility receive a rating of Meets Standards. The facility complies with the ICE National Detention Standards (PBNDS 2011) unless unobserved practices and conditions are contrary to what was reported to the inspection team. No (0) standards were found Does Not Meet Standard and three (3) standards were Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining forty (40) standards were found to Meet Standards.



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 with one inspector participating telephonically. In addition to the Nakamoto Group, Inc. onsite inspectors, the following participated:

•	ICE Officials -	



Lead Compliance Inspector	May 5, 2022	
Printed Name of LCI	Date	