

November 18, 2021

TO:

Acting Assistant Director Custody Management

FROM:

Lead Compliance Inspector The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

SUBJECT: Annual Inspection of the Geauga County Jail

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the ICE National Detention Standards (NDS) of the Geauga County Jail in Chardon, Ohio, during the period of November 16-18, 2021. This is an IGSA facility.

The annual 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 annual inspection that is performed to determine overall compliance with the ICE NDS for Over 72-hour facilities. The December 2020 annual inspection was rated Meets Standard.

Inspection Summary

The Geauga 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) 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 2020 and 2021 NDS compliance inspections:



2020 Annual Inspection	
Meets Standard	36
Does Not Meet Standard	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	3

2021 Annual Inspection			
Meets Standard	36		
Does Not Meet Standard	0		
Repeat Finding	0		
Not Applicable	3		

The inspection team identified three (3) deficient components in the following three (3) standards:

Detainee Handbook – 1 Emergency Plans - 1 Environmental Health and Safety – 1, which is a repeat deficiency

Facility Snapshot/Description

The Geauga County Jail (GCJ), constructed in 2005, is located in Chardon, Ohio. The facility is owned by the County of Geauga and operated by the Geauga County Sheriff's Department. The facility capacity is beds. The facility employs the indirect model of supervision for all custody levels of adult male and female ICE detainees. The facility also houses inmates from Geauga County, Summit County, U.S. Marshal Service, and Cuyahoga County.

The facility is a single level structure, save the mezzanine level tiers in housing areas. ICE detainees are commingled in nine independent housing units with populations of compatible custody levels. Currently six of the housing units are used to house male detainees. The three remaining housing units are reserved for female detainees. Units are all double bunked except for one cell in every housing unit that is handicap accessible. Currently, D and B are being used as single bunked cells for quarantine purposes. Three of the celled housing units have two cells that may be used for special management housing. SMU cells are double occupancy and separated from the remaining housing unit by a detention grade sliding door that creates a sally port entrance. Living units are well lit with both natural and artificial light. The day rooms provide adequate open space for detainees. The day rooms are furnished with tables and chairs for detainees to participate in leisure time activities and socializing. Board games, reading for pleasure, playing cards, and television viewing are available. Kiosks are available in each of the housing units to order commissary items, review the handbooks, play games and includes an application for video visitation with family and friends. Kiosks are programmed to send electronic requests to ICE and facility staff. The facility provides two dedicated areas for detainee recreation. The outdoor recreation area is covered and is equipped with screened openings permitting natural light and fresh air to enter. A basketball court is available in the outside recreation area. The indoor recreation area is equipped with stationary exercise equipment for detainee use. Non-contact detainee visitation is available. Due to COVID-19 protocols, religious programming has been modified to limit group sizes and arrange seating to achieve safe social distancing. Other COVID-19 response operational changes include housing new admissions in quarantine for the first eleven days. The facility uses UV light sanitizers and disinfectant sprayers to enhance jail cleaning efforts.

The facility is climate controlled and is in good repair. The sanitation level of the facility was average to above average. Officers were well-versed in facility guidelines and operating procedures, as well as the National Detention Standards. Officers and staff were professional during interviews and detainees spoke willingly and respectfully. Interactions between staff and detainees, and among detainees in the housing units, appeared relaxed.



The inspection team interviewed fifteen limited English proficient (LEP) and English-speaking detainees. Three detainees requested a formal interview. The other interviews were conducted informally. One detainee was in quarantine as a result of a positive COVID-19 test. He was not available for an interview. There were no substantive concerns voiced when asked about treatment by staff, access to telephones, mail services, access to ICE officials, or medical services provided. Food was reported to be above-average in quality and quantity. Detainees stated that deputies and ICE officers were responsive to their questions. Observations confirmed that ICE officers and facility staff engage with the detainees. Therefore, no detainee was asked if they had submitted their concerns to the Office of Inspector General. There were no concerns raised about COVID-19 protocols and safety measures required of the detainee population.

Food services and medical services are provided by Geauga County personnel. The facility does not charge copays for medical or mental health care.

Areas of Concern/Significant Observations

The inspection was conducted as a hybrid. The QMC SME and Medical SME conducted the inspection remotely and were unable to personally observe practices and procedures within the facility. The remote inspectors relied upon photographs and/or videos to validate the information and documentation.

There were no areas of concern or significant observations.

Recommended Rating and Justification

The Lead Compliance Inspector recommends the facility receive a rating of Meets Standards unless unobserved practices and conditions are contrary to what was reported to the inspection team. The facility complies with the ICE National Detention Standards (NDS). No (0) standards were found Does Not Meet Standard and three (3) standards were Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining thirty-six (36) standards were found to Meet Standards.

LCI Assurance Statement

The findings of compliance and non-compliance are accurately and completely documented on the G-324A Inspection Form and are supported by documentation in the inspection file. A telephonic out brief was conducted at the facility and in addition to the entire The Nakamoto Group, Inc. Inspection Team, the following participated and/or were present:

•	ICE Officials -			
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• Facility Staff –

Lead Compliance Inspector November 18, 2021

Printed Name of LCI Date