

May 6, 2021

TO:

Assistant Director Custody Management

FROM:

Lead Compliance Inspector

SUBJECT: Annual Inspection of the Hudson County Corrections and

Rehabilitation Center

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed a hybrid annual inspection for compliance with the ICE Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS 2008/SAAPI 2011) of the Hudson County Corrections and Rehabilitation Center in Kearny, New Jersey during the period of May 4-6, 2021. This is an IG-SA facility.

The annual inspection was performed under the guidance of Nakamoto Lead Compliance
Team members were:

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

Type of Inspection

This is a scheduled annual inspection, which is performed to determine overall compliance with the ICE PBNDS 2008/SAAPI 2011 for Over 72-hour facilities. The facility received a rating of Meets Standards during the October 2020 annual inspection.

Inspection Summary

The Hudson County Corrections and Rehabilitation 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) 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 annual inspections:



2020 Annual Inspection		
Meets Standards	39	
Does Not Meet Standards	0	
Repeat Finding	0	
Not Applicable	2	

2021 Annual Inspection		
Meets Standards	39	
Does Not Meet Standards	0	
Repeat Finding	0	
Not Applicable	2	

There were no deficient components identified by the inspection team.

Facility Snapshot/Description

The Hudson County Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Center is owned by Hudson County and operated under the jurisdiction of the Hudson County Board of Corrections. The facility is located in an industrial park in Kearny, New Jersey across the Hudson River from Lower Manhattan. The facility houses adult male ICE detainees, adult male and female U.S. Marshal Service detainees, Hudson County inmates, and New Jersey Department of Corrections inmates of all classification levels. There are no juveniles housed in this facility.

The jail was built in 1989. It is a single six-story building encircled by a secure perimeter comprised of sectional runs of one to three fourteen-foot-high chain link fencing sections supplemented with razor ribbon on top and bottom and a movement detection system on the interior fence line. There is a perimeter road around the complex; it is patrolled by an armed officer multiple times each shift. Surveillance cameras offer visibility around the entire perimeter, into the housing units and common areas, and interior movement corridors. All exterior building doors are alarmed, under constant camera surveillance, and controlled by central control staff. The facility is equipped with a surveillance camera network that is monitored 24 hours a day.

The facility has 34 individual housing units managed under the direct supervision model. Eight of the housing units are dormitory settings ranging in size from 24-64 beds, and four of the units are divided into various sizes of two-bed cells configured into a two-tier design. Two of the dormitory settings are dedicated to ICE detainees only. There is one special management unit (SMU) containing 32 one-bed cells in a two-tier design. There were no ICE detainees in the SMU during the inspection. The health care unit is new. It has 68 one-bed cells for males built in a two-tier format, and ten one-bed cells for females set in a linear design. There is a central nursing station with multiple examination/treatment rooms. The health care unit is currently serving as the COVID-19 quarantine/isolation area. The population and demand for these beds change multiple times each day. There were no active COVID-19 cases in the facility during the inspection. The health care unit is not an officially licensed infirmary, but it has met the criteria for such certification.

During the height of COVID-19 conditions in this area, March, April, and May 2020, on-site visitation was halted and the facility defaulted to remote video-visiting as the only vehicle for visual visiting. Since then, on-site non-contact visiting has been restored with remote video-visiting still an option for all detainees.

Each ICE detainee living area, except SMU, has a common dayroom equipped with a television, fixed table/chair units for detainees to eat their meals, play games, and gather for conversation, and an outdoor recreation area that is open access daily from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. There are currently no electronic tablets in the housing units but within the next month, they will be available in sufficient quantities for each detainee to have access to a device at the same time. The housing units have one informational kiosk



that serves as a retrieval source for all announcements, bulletins, and activity and service schedule information, and two fixed video-visit terminals to accommodate remote visiting. Detainees are provided daily indoor and outdoor recreation.

Inspectors interviewed nineteen general population detainees. Overall, detainees were satisfied with the cleanliness/conditions of the facility and their treatment by the staff. There were no registered concerns about access to services, their safety, ICE/ERO responsiveness to their questions/concerns, or the cleanliness of their living areas. There was some natter about the quality and quantity of the food. This comment was discussed by the safety SME with the food service director. The menu has been approved by a registered dietician and the 42-day cycle menu offers variety and ethnic diversity. The daily calorie count is 3,400 calories. The food looked and tasted good. No further action was necessary. The minor medical concerns were discussed with the health services administrator by the medical SME. All of the detainees had previously been seen and treated for the conditions they reported. No further action was necessary. Few detainees had filed a grievance, most were not aware of the OIG office or its service; they were informed.

Surprisingly, COVID-19 was rarely mentioned as a concern. The precautions taken at this facility are intense and strictly enforced. All staff wears a mask and those without are stopped and provided one before they are permitted to proceed any further.

There were no deaths, serious suicide attempts, escapes, uses-of-force, sexual assaults, hunger strikes, or significant disturbance reported during this inspection period.

The facility is maintaining a high level of sanitation and cleanliness throughout all areas.

Medical services are delivered by Wellpath and Hudson County employees. Food services are managed by Gourmet Dining. Maintenance is provided by Hudson County employees and an independent janitorial company. Detainee telephone services are provided by GlobalTel/GTL. ICE detainees are not charged medical co-pays.

Areas of Concern/Significant Observations

This inspection was conducted as a hybrid inspection, wherein some inspectors were on-site and some worked remotely. Remote inspectors were unable to personally observe practices and procedures within the facility. Remote inspection team members relied on photographs and/or videos to validate the observation of some standards. There were no areas of concern or significant observations during this hybrid inspection.

Recommended Rating and Justification

The Lead Compliance Inspector recommends that the facility receive a rating of Meets Standard unless unobserved practices and conditions are contrary to what was reported to the inspection team. The facility complies with the ICE Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) 2008/SAAPI 2011. No (0) standards were found Does Not Meet Standard and two (2) standards were Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining thirty-nine (39) standards were found to Meet Standards.

LCI Assurance Statement

The findings of compliance and noncompliance are accurately and completely documented on the G-324A Inspection Form and are supported by documentation in the inspection file. A call-in out brief was



conducted at the facility and in addition to the entire Nakamoto Group, Inc. Inspection Team, the following were present:

•	ICE Officials -	
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• Facility Staff –

Lead Compliance Inspector	May 6, 2021
Printed Name of LCI	Date