



May 20, 2021

TO: [REDACTED]  
Assistant Director Custody Management

FROM: [REDACTED]  
Lead Compliance Inspector  
The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

SUBJECT: **Annual Inspection of the Nye County Detention Center**

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the ICE National Detention Standards (NDS) 2019 of the Nye County Detention Center in Pahrump, Nevada during the period of May 18-20, 2021. This is an IGSA.

The annual inspection was performed under the guidance of [REDACTED] Lead Compliance Inspector. Team members were:

Subject Matter Field	Team Member
Safety	[REDACTED]
Security	[REDACTED]
Medical Care	[REDACTED]
Detainee Rights	[REDACTED]
Medical Care	[REDACTED]

**Type of Inspection**

This is a scheduled annual inspection that is performed to determine overall compliance with the ICE NDS 2019 for Over 72-hour facilities. The facility received a rating of Meets Standards during the November 2020 annual inspection.

**Inspection Summary**

The Nye County Detention Center 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 annual inspections:



The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

<b>2020 Annual Inspection</b>	
Meets Standards	31
Does Not Meet Standards	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	2

<b>2021 Annual Inspection</b>	
Meets Standards	31
Does Not Meet Standards	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	2

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

Use of Force and Restraint – 2

Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention – 1, which is a repeat deficiency

Food Service – 1, which is a repeat deficiency

Suicide Prevention and Intervention – 2, both of which are repeat deficiencies

### **Facility Snapshot/Description**

The Nye County Detention Center is owned by Nye County and operated under the jurisdiction of the Nye County Sheriff's Office. The facility is located in Pahrump, Nevada, which is sixty miles west of Las Vegas on the California state line. The facility houses male ICE detainees and male and female county and U.S. Marshal Service inmates of all classification levels. ICE detainees are housed with non-ICE detainees of compatible custody levels. [REDACTED]

The jail was built in 2012. It is a multi-story building that shares space with the Nye County Sheriff's Office and some county courtrooms. The compound is two buildings, both encircled by a secure perimeter comprised of sections of chain link fencing runs, supplemented with razor ribbon on the top, and the exterior walls of some of the buildings. There is a perimeter road around the compound; it is patrolled by an armed officer each shift at irregular times. Surveillance cameras offer visibility around the entire perimeter, into the housing units, common areas, outdoor recreation yards, and the interior movement corridors. All exterior building doors are alarmed, under constant camera surveillance, and controlled by main control civilian detention technicians. The facility is equipped with a surveillance camera network that is monitored 24 hours a day.

The facility has eleven individual housing units managed by a roving officer assigned to multiple housing units and monitored by observation of the main control detention technicians. The housing units are all two-tier designs configured into dormitory and two-bed cells. The housing units range in size from 16-32 beds. Nine units are for general population and two units serve as the special management unit (SMU). There was one ICE detainee in the SMU in administrative segregation status during the inspection. Two of the general population units currently serve as COVID-19 quarantine/isolation units where newly admitted detainees and existing detainees are housed until negative testing results are complete. During the inspection, fourteen ICE detainees were positive for COVID-19 and one ICE detainee was admitted to the hospital with advanced symptoms. Nine of the fourteen ICE detainees received during the week of May 10, 2021, tested positive for COVID-19. The health care unit is small but functional; it contains two one-bed rooms for treatment and/or observation.

This facility relies on technology to document, witness, and monitor all staff and detainee functions. The Guardian System is the format for recording and tracking all daily operational functions by staff and the detainees. All deputies and medical staff carry a Guardian System device. The Guardian System logs detainee activities/movements; is the recording device used when taking count; records tool issuance and return, all staff/medical housing unit rounds, laundry pick-up/delivery, meal deliveries, med passes, legal



mail and commissary deliveries, and records/documents disciplinary reports/hearings; tracks grievances and appeals; and a host of other services and activities. Paper logbooks are not used in this facility.

Each housing unit has a common dayroom equipped with a television, telephone stations, a bank of electronic tablets, and fixed table/chair units for detainees to eat their meals, play games, and gather for conversation. Information not included on the tablets, including consulate numbers, legal services postings, etc. is posted on the housing units' bulletin boards. Tablets are available to detainees at a ratio of one tablet for five detainees. With rare exceptions, all detainee information is retrievable from the tablet. Tablets provide detainees the ability to retrieve the National Detainee Handbook and the facility handbook in several languages; access commissary account balances; file grievances; submit ICE/facility requests; retrieve all program/activity schedules; send/receive personal emails; participate in video visits; play electronic games; read books; and retrieve select law book materials. Dayrooms are accessible daily from 5:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

On-site non-contact general and legal visits have continued throughout COVID-19 conditions, but with strong safety protocols that are strictly enforced. Video visits are available from the on-site visiting areas and remote locations. Detainees are provided indoor and outdoor recreation.

The inspectors conducted nineteen confidential detainee interviews during the inspection; eight required an interpreter. The length of stay in the facility ranged from two months to two years. All of the detainees stated they felt safe at the facility and had not been threatened or mistreated by staff or other detainees. The complaints/comments were unusually minor and few. The detainees who registered medical concerns had their issues brought to the attention of the health services administrator by the medical SME. All of the detainees had already been seen by health care staff for their stated concern and were scheduled for a follow-up appointment, as their condition required. There were no festering issues requiring quick intervention. The other minor complaint revolved around the quality and quantity of the food. The comments were discussed with the food service director by the safety SME. The 35-cycle menu offers ethnic diversity, targets a daily caloric intake of 2,800 calories, and displays good presentation on the trays. All menus have been reviewed and approved by a registered dietician as meeting or exceeding the US RDA for nutrition. The kitchen bakes its own bread. No further action was necessary.

Detainees stated they had no issues with seeing ICE/ERO personnel on their scheduled tours or getting answers to their requests; they were usually provided within 24 hours. Over half of the interviewed detainees had used the law library and had no problems with access. Recreation time was satisfactory. Grievances were heard fairly and the results were provided promptly. A couple of the detainees were aware of OIG services and knew how to reach them on the detainee telephone system. Overall, the detainees were very content with their living conditions, the cleanliness of the facility, and their treatment by staff and other detainees. There were no deaths, suicide attempts, escapes, hunger strikes, sexual assault/abuse allegations, or calculated uses of force reported during this inspection period.

Medical services are provided by Serenity Mental Health. Food service is provided by Summit Food Service, LLC. Maintenance is the responsibility of Nye County employees. Detainee telephone and tablet services are provided by Combined Public Communications. ICE detainees are not charged co-pays for medical, mental health, or dental care services.

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

This was a hybrid inspection in which some inspectors work remotely. Remote inspectors were unable to personally observe practices and procedures within the facility and relied upon photographs and/or videos to validate the observation of many standards. There were no areas of concern or significant observations.



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### **Recommended Rating and Justification**

The Lead Compliance Inspector recommends that 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 2019) for Over 72-hour facilities. No (0) standard was rated as Does Not Meet Standard and two (2) standards were Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining thirty-one (31) 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. An out brief was conducted at the facility and in addition to the entire Nakamoto Group, Inc. Inspection Team (one SME via conference call) the following were present:

- ICE Officials – [REDACTED]
- Facility Staff – [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Lead Compliance Inspector

May 20, 2021

Printed Name of LCI

Date