



The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

February 10, 2021

TO: [REDACTED]  
Assistant Director for Detention Management

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

SUBJECT: **Annual Detention Inspection of the Prairieland Detention Center**

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the ICE Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS 2011 with 2016 revisions) of the Prairieland Detention Center, Alvarado, Texas, during the period of February 8-10, 2021. This is a Dedicated IGSA facility.

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

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

### **Type of Inspection**

This is a scheduled annual inspection which is performed to determine overall compliance with the ICE PBNDS 2011 with 2016 revisions for Over 72 hour facilities. The facility received a previous rating of Meets Standards as a result of the February 2020 annual inspection.

### **Inspection Summary**

The Prairieland 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) - 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 2020 and 2021 annual compliance inspections:



<b>2020 Annual Inspection</b>	
Meets Standards	40
Does Not Meet Standards	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	2

<b>2021 Annual Inspection</b>	
Meets Standards	40
Does Not Meet Standards	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	3

The inspection team identified five (5) deficient components in the following three (3) standards:

- Special Management Units - 1, which is a repeat deficiency
- Staff-Detainee Communication - 1, which is a repeat deficiency
- Visitation - 3, two of which are priority components

### **Facility Snapshot/Description**

The Prairieland Detention Center, a Dedicated IGSA, is located in rural Alvarado, Texas, forty miles south-east of Dallas. The facility is owned by the city of Alvarado PFC Board of Directors. The city of Alvarado has a contract with LaSalle Corrections to manage and operate the facility. The facility houses adult male and female ICE detainees of all classification levels.

ICE maintains an on-site presence in the facility.

The facility has fourteen housing units: eleven dormitory and three cell housing units. The three cell housing units are used for segregation management. Dormitory capacities range from 36 to 82 beds. Housing units are managed by direct supervision. Each dormitory has a dedicated outdoor recreation area that detainees may freely access as well as a separate indoor common area for leisure time activities. The dormitory housing units are furnished with televisions, telephones and electronic tablets. The electronic tablets may be used to video call, watch movies, listen to music, play electronic games, send electronic requests to facility and/or ICE personnel, send sick call requests, manage and order commissary, and manage telephone accounts. Board games and leisure reading materials are available. All detainees are escorted when moving outside of the housing units. Food service operations consists of cafeteria style service. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, movement is limited so all meals are served via satellite feeding in the housing units.

All detainees arriving at the facility are placed in a fourteen-day cohort (quarantine status) due to COVID-19 protocols. Upon arrival, detainees are offered a COVID-19 test. Detainees are classified prior to placement in the cohort status.

ICE suspended on-site general/social visitation for ICE detainees in March 2020. However, the facility continues to offer fee-based virtual visitation to detainees and visitors during the on-site visitation suspension. Legal and professional visits are exempt from the on-site visitation suspension. To mitigate the impact of the visitation suspension, each detainee is provided with thirteen, ten-minute free telephone calls per week. The suspension of non-employee volunteers entering the facility has also impacted various programs.

Twelve detainees were interviewed individually by telephone. Seven of the interviews were with detainees with limited English proficiency (LEP); all were Spanish speakers and were interviewed by bilingual members of the inspection team. Both male and female detainees were interviewed. Three of the twelve interviews were with detainees housed in the SMU. The detainees who voiced any complaints or concerns had not filed a grievance or contacted the OIG regarding the issues but were aware of the process and their rights to do so.



One detainee complained that it took too long for him to get an appointment for sick call after he submitted his request. The medical SME followed up on this complaint and found that the detainee submitted a sick call request on January 17, 2021, and was seen by medical staff on January 18, 2021, and was prescribed antibiotics and given a strep throat test. He was seen again for follow-up by a mid-level practitioner on January 21, 2021.

One of the detainees housed in the special management unit (SMU) stated he had not seen an ICE officer while housed in the SMU. The SDDO provided documentation substantiating that ICE officers routinely visit the SMU. Documentation that an ICE officer had visited this particular detainee was not available.

No life/safety concerns were voiced by any of the detainees interviewed.

The facility does not charge co-pays for medical, mental health, or dental care.

Detainee telephone services are provided via the national ICE contract with Talton Communications. All other services are provided by LaSalle Corrections.

### **Areas of Concern/Significant Observation**

The inspection team identified two (2) deficient priority components:

#### **Visitation**

**Component #5-** General visitation is permitted during set hours on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, and, to the extent practicable, the facility also establishes visiting hours on weekdays and during evening hours. The facility accommodates the scheduling needs of visitors for whom scheduled visiting hours pose a hardship. The number of visitors a detainee receives and the length of visits are limited only by reasonable constraints of space, scheduling, staff availability, safety, security, and good order.

*Finding:* General visitation was suspended by ICE in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Per the OIC and substantiated by a review of policy, prior to the imposition of the suspension the facility met the requirements of the standard. Detainees continue to have access to social visits, seven days per week, via the electronic tablets located in each housing unit. However, these visits are all fee based. Detainees do not have a no-fee option available for social visits in order to meet the basic requirements of the standard. The telephone vendor is providing detainees with thirteen, ten-minute free telephone calls each week to mitigate the impact of the suspension. Per the OIC and the compliance manager, whenever ICE authorizes on-site general visitation to resume, visitation will be permitted seven days per week, including Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, and will be limited only by reasonable constraints of space, scheduling, staff availability, safety, security, and good order as required by the component.

*Recommendation:* The facility should explore options to provide detainees with no-fee video visits on Saturday, Sundays and holidays, and, to the extent practicable, visits on weekdays and during evening hours, until such time as ICE discontinues the suspension for on-site social visitation.

**Component #9:** The facility's written rules shall specify time limits for visits. Visits should be for the maximum period practicable but not less than one hour with special consideration given to family circumstances and individuals who have traveled long distances.

*Finding:* General visitation was suspended by ICE in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Per the OIC and substantiated by a review of policy, prior to the imposition of the suspension the facility met the



requirements of the standard. Detainees continue to have access to social visits, seven days per week, with no time constraints, via the electronic tablets located in each housing unit. However, these visits are all fee based. Detainees do not have a no-fee option available for social visits to meet the basic requirements of the standard. The telephone vendor is providing detainees with thirteen, ten-minute free telephone calls each week to mitigate the impact of the suspension. Per the OIC and the compliance manager, whenever ICE authorizes on-site general visitation to resume, visitation will be permitted seven days per week, including Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, and will permit on-site visits of no-less than one hour with special consideration given to family circumstances and individuals who have traveled long distances.

*Recommendation:* The facility should explore options to provide detainees with no-fee video visitation for a minimum of one hour per week until such time as ICE discontinues the suspension for on-site social visits.

The inspection was conducted remotely and inspectors were unable to personally observe practices and procedures within the facility. The inspection team relied upon a review of policies, procedures, logs, photographs and/or videos to validate the observation of many standards. Additionally, interviews were conducted with multiple key staff members.

### **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 Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS 2011 with 2016 revisions). 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 by telephone conference call and in addition to the entire Nakamoto Group, Inc. Inspection Team, the following persons participated in the call:

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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Lead Compliance Inspector  
Printed Name of LCI

February 10, 2021  
Date