

October 28, 2020

TO:

Assistant Director for Detention Management

FROM:

Lead Compliance Inspector The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

**SUBJECT:** Annual Detention Inspection of the Pike County Correctional Facility

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the ICE Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS 2008/SAAPI 2011) of the Pike County Correctional Facility in Lords Valley, Pennsylvania during the period of October 26-28, 2020. This is an IGSA facility.

The inspection was performed under the guidance of the 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 remote annual inspection which is performed to determine overall compliance with the ICE PBNDS for Over-72 hour facilities. The facility received a previous rating of Meets Standards during the April 2019 annual inspection.

### **Inspection Summary**

The Pike County Correctional Facility is currently accredited by:

- The American Correctional Association (ACA) No
- The National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) Yes
- 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 2019 and the 2020 annual compliance inspections:



2019 Annual Inspection	
Meets Standard	40
Does Not Meet Standard	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	1

2020 Annual Inspection	
Meets Standard	40
Does Not Meet Standard	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	1

The inspection team identified two (2) deficient components in two (2) standards:

Hunger Strikes – 1 Staff-Detainee Communication - 1

### **Facility Snapshot/Description**

As confirmed by the assistant warden, Pike County Correctional Facility is located in Lords Valley, Pennsylvania, approximately 85 miles northwest of the Newark Liberty International Airport. The facility is owned by Pike County and operates under the authority of the Pike County Prison Board. Pike County has an IGSA with Homeland Security (ICE). The facility houses all custody levels of adult male and female non-ICE detainees and male ICE detainees.

The facility consists of three one-story buildings which include eleven separate detainee housing units. Floor plans and photo images confirmed that housing units are cell design. Housing units are monitored with direct supervision. According to the housing rosters, ICE detainees are commingled with non-ICE detainees in compatible classifications.

As confirmed by the assistant warden, the secure perimeter of the jail consists of exterior walls of the building supplemented by intermittent sections of twelve-foot fencing enhanced by razor ribbon on the top and bottom. These features combine to encircle the entire compound. Surveillance cameras give full perimeter coverage and are constantly watched by control center personnel. There is a paved perimeter road around the entire complex patrolled by an unarmed officer twice per shift.

Photo images confirmed that the facility has four outdoor and two indoor recreation areas. Detainees in the general population are offered either indoor or outdoor recreation two hours per day, seven days per week. Housing areas provide dayroom space, adequate restroom facilities, and seating areas for their maximum occupancy. Televisions, law library computers, playing cards, board games, and kiosks for internal communications with facility and ICE staff are available in the dayrooms. Per COVID-19 protocols, on-site general visitation was suspended in March 2020.

Sixteen detainees volunteered to be interviewed telephonically. Five of the interviews were with detainees with limited English proficiency. An interpreter and language service provider was used for translation services. No detainee expressed concerns related to physical safety. All the detainees expressed satisfaction with the quality and quantity of the food provided to them.

Two detainees housed in Restricted Housing (RHU) were interviewed individually. There were no substantive concerns expressed by either detainee. Both confirmed that they had access to telephones, recreation, and additional time out of cell. They both knew why they were in RHU. One detainee acknowledged that he had a disciplinary hearing. The other detainee knew that the disciplinary hearing was scheduled.



Several detainees were interviewed from the general population. None feared for their safety, described the food as average or better and all stated that they had easy access to the legal computers if they needed. Two detainees complained of being housed with other jurisdictions citing that detainees serving civil commitments should not be housed with inmates serving criminal commitments. All detainees interviewed stated that they received both the National Detainee Handbook and the local supplement at admission.

There were no problems expressed about sanitation, living conditions, safety, recreation, religious programs, or communications with staff. Two stated that they had not seen an ICE officer in the housing unit but due to COVID-19, they understood why and that they could contact ICE on the kiosk.

One detainee complained he was having an issue with his tonsils and "was not receiving proper medical treatment". Follow-up by the Medical SME confirmed that on 6/30/2020, the detainee submitted a medical request reporting abdominal pain and diarrhea that he attributed to previously a prescribed antibiotic regimen. The detainee was assessed, and the provider was contacted for further orders based on the detainee's reports and the nursing assessment that was conducted. Orders received from medical providers were carried out by nursing staff. No further requests were submitted following this request by the detainee. There was no change to the detainee's diet following resulted diagnostic testing ordered. The detainee is scheduled to see a specialist on 11/17/2020 for his tonsils.

Medical services are provided by PrimeCare Medical, Inc. All other services are provided by Pike County. ICE detainees do not incur medical co-pays.

# **Areas of Concern/Significant Observations**

There were no areas of concern or significant observation noted during the inspection. The inspection was conducted remotely, and inspectors were unable to personally observe practices and procedures within the facility. The inspection team relied upon photographs and/or videos to confirm 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 2008 and PBNDS 2011 SAAPI). No (0) standards were found Does Not Meet Standard and one (1) standard was Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining forty (40) standards were found to be in compliance.

#### **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 remotely. In addition to the entire Nakamoto Group, Inc. Inspection Team, the following participated in the conference call:

- ICE Officials –
- Facility Staff



, Lead Compliance Inspector

October 28, 2020

Printed Name of LCI

Date