

February 27, 2020

TO:

Assistant Director for Detention Management

FROM:

Lead Compliance Inspector The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

## SUBJECT: Annual Detention Inspection of the Bergen County Jail

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the ICE National Detention Standards (NDS) of the Bergen County Jail in Hackensack, New Jersey, during the period of February 25-27, 2020. This is an IGSA facility.

The inspection was performed under the guidance of the second sec

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

## **Type of Inspection**

This is a scheduled annual inspection, which is performed to determine overall compliance with the ICE NDS for Over 72 hour facilities. The facility received a previous rating of Acceptable during the February 2019 inspection.

### Inspection Summary

The Bergen County Jail 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) 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 2020 NDS compliance annual inspections:



2019 Annual Inspection		
Acceptable	37	
Deficient	0	
Repeat Deficiency	0	
Not Applicable	2	

2020 Annual Inspection	
Acceptable	37
Deficient	0
Repeat Deficiency	0
Not Applicable	2

There were no deficient components identified during the inspection.

#### **Facility Snapshot/Description**

The Bergen County Jail is located in an industrial area in Hackensack, New Jersey. The facility is owned by the County of Bergen and operated by the Bergen County Sheriff's Department. The two-story facility was built in 1965 and remodeled/upgraded in 2000. The facility houses adult male and female detainees of all classification levels for ICE, U.S. Marshals Service, New Jersey Department of Corrections, and local jurisdictions. Officers are stationed in each of the six dedicated ICE housing units providing direct supervision of detainees in dormitories and celled housing.

Housing areas provide adequate open space that is well lit with both natural and artificial light. The common areas of the housing unit are equipped with tables and chairs for detainees to participate in leisure time activities and socializing. Detainees were observed playing board games, reading, visiting, using computers, watching television, and viewing the kiosks. An outside recreation yard is attached to each housing unit and/or available at scheduled times each day for detainee use. ICE detainees are not commingled with other jurisdictions. The facility is climate controlled. The inspection team observed the housing and work environments to be free from obvious stress indicators. Detainees freely approached inspectors, ICE officials, and facility personnel. Sanitation throughout the facility was observed to be above average.

No less than 25 confidential interviews were conducted. Additionally, no less than fifty detainees were informally interviewed on the housing units, in administrative segregation, law library, indoor recreation, outdoor recreation, and in the kitchen. Detainees with limited English proficiency revealed that they have access to medical services, law library, telephone services, visitation, and recreational activities. They expressed appreciation for how they are treated by staff and "felt safe". Interviews with detainees revealed an overall acceptance of the meals. One detainee complained that he did not receive dental care. A review of his medical record confirmed that he had been seen by the dentist in a timely manner.

All officers were well-versed in facility guidelines and operating procedures as well as the National Detention Standards. Officers and staff were professional when dealing with detainees and the inspection team.

Medical services are provided by Bergen County employees. The facility does not charge co-pays for medical, mental health, or dental care. Food service operations are contracted with Aramark.

#### Areas of Concern/Significant Observations

There were no areas of concern or significant observations.



### **Recommended Rating and Justification**

The Lead Compliance Inspector recommends that the facility receive a rating of Acceptable. The facility complies with the ICE National Detention Standards (NDS). No (0) standards were found Deficient and two (2) standards were Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining thirty-seven (37) 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-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, the following were present:

• ICE Officials –	
• Facility Staff –	
, Lead Compliance Inspector	February 27, 2020
Printed Name of LCI	Date