

February 21, 2020

TO:

Assistant Director for Detention Management

FROM:

Lead Compliance Inspector The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

# SUBJECT: Annual Detention Inspection of the Brooks County Detention Center

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the National Detention Standards (NDS) of the Brooks County Detention Center in Falfurrias, Texas, during the period of February 19-21, 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 annual inspection.

### **Inspection Summary**

The Brooks County Detention Center is currently accredited by:

- The American Correctional Association (ACA) Yes
- 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 2019 and the 2020 annual inspections:



| 2019 Annual Inspection |    | 2020 Annual Inspection | 2020 Annual Inspection |  |
|------------------------|----|------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Acceptable             | 36 | Acceptable             | 36                     |  |
| Deficient              | 0  | Deficient              | 0                      |  |
| Repeat Deficiency      | 0  | Repeat Deficiency      | 0                      |  |
| Not Applicable         | 3  | Not Applicable         | 3                      |  |

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

Detainee Handbook - 1 Food Service - 1 Security Inspections - 1, which is a repeat deficiency

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

The Brooks County Detention Center is located in Falfurrias, Texas, a rural town approximately 170 miles south of the San Antonio International Airport. The facility is owned and operated by The Geo Group, Inc. (GEO) with headquarters in Boca Raton, Florida. The facility operates via a contract with the Brooks County Sheriff's Office which has an IGSA with the United States Marshals Service (USMS). The facility was constructed in 2001

During the inspection,

the facility was housing both male and female non-ICE detainees of various custody levels for the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office and the USMS. No ICE detainees have been housed at the facility since August 2019. During the previous twelve months, ICE detainees were housed at the facility between the months of April and August.

The facility is a one-story structure surrounded by two, twelve-foot chain link fences, both of which are supplemented by razor ribbon. Additionally, an electronic vibration sensor monitoring system on the interior fence enhances the security provided by the fences. An armed officer in a vehicle patrols the perimeter around the clock. The compound consists of four buildings, each of which contain detainee housing units. Of the **security** at the facility **security** are dormitory beds and **security** are cell design; 23 of the **security** cell beds are located in the restricted housing unit (RHU). However, the facility does not house ICE detainees in the RHU. Any ICE detainee requiring separation from the general population is transferred the same day the need to separate arises. Whenever ICE detainees are present at the facility, they are housed in one of two 48-bed dormitories in Building 4.

All housing units receive indirect supervision from roving officers. At least one stationery camera is mounted in each housing unit and monitored by an officer in the central control center. Additional cameras are placed strategically throughout the facilities in hallways, work areas, and other common areas.

There are two covered outdoor recreation areas which provide fresh air and sunlight and one large uncovered outdoor recreation yard. Detainees have access to one of these outdoor recreation areas at least one hour per day, seven days per week. The housing units designated for ICE detainees have a dayroom area equipped with a television, six telephones, a microwave oven, and various card and board games. The entire facility is climate controlled. Cleanliness and sanitation throughout the facility were observed to be average.

Detainee telephone services are provided by GTL. The commissary vendor during the inspection was Forecomm Solutions; however, the facility was in the process of transitioning to the Keefe Group for commissary services.



All other services are provided by GEO.

ICE detainees do not incur medical co-pays at this facility.

# 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. No (0) standards were found Deficient and three (3) standards were Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining thirty-six (36) 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 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 21, 2020 |  |
| Printed Name of LCI         | Date              |  |