

March 3, 2021

TO:

Assistant Director Custody Management

FROM:

Lead Compliance Inspector The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

SUBJECT: Annual Inspection of the Calhoun County Jail

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the ICE National Detention Standards (NDS) 2019 of the Calhoun County Jail in Battle Creek, Michigan, during the period of March 1-3, 2021. This is an IGSA.

The annual inspection was performed under the guidance of the second plane of the second plane. Lead 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 annual inspection which 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 March 2020 annual inspection.

## **Inspection Summary**

The Calhoun County Jail 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) 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:



2020 Annual Inspection	
Meets Standards	37
Does Not Meet Standards	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	2

2021 Annual Inspection	
Meets Standards	32
Does Not Meet Standards	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	1

The inspection team identified twenty-one (21) deficient components in the following ten (10) standards:

Environmental Health and Safety -2Hold Rooms in Detention Facilities - 1 Post Orders – 2 Special Management Units – 1 Staff-Detainee Communication – 2 Medical Care – 1 Suicide Prevention and Intervention – 4 Disability Identification, Assessment and Accommodation – 4 Recreation - 1 Visitation – 3

# Facility Snapshot/Description

The Calhoun County Jail is owned by Calhoun County and is operated under the jurisdiction of the Calhoun County Sheriff's Department. It is located in downtown Battle Creek, Michigan, in the Calhoun County Justice Complex.

The remaining detainees were from Calhoun County and surrounding jurisdictions. ICE detainees are housed and comingle with

non-ICE detainees.

The facility was built in 1994. It occupies a space inside the Calhoun County Justice Complex which includes the Sheriff's Office, county courtrooms, and various other county services. The complex perimeter is comprised of exterior building walls and partial fencing runs which are supplemented with razor ribbon on top and bottom. There is a perimeter road that encircles the complex; it is patrolled by an armed officer at least once each shift. Surveillance cameras offer visibility around the entire perimeter, into the housing units, the common areas, and interior movement corridors. All exterior building doors are under constant camera surveillance and are controlled by center control staff. The building is equipped with a site-wide duress/panic alarm system and a 150+ surveillance camera network that is monitored 24 hours a day.

The facility has fifteen individual general population housing units. The housing units are a combination of dormitory settings ranging in size from 24 to 64 beds; and one and two-tier units with six to 28 cells each room with two beds. There is one special management unit (SMU); it has 64 cells designed with one bed in each. Detainees are housed in either direct supervision housing units with an officer stationed in the unit or in indirect supervision units with roving officers providing supervision. There were two ICE detainees in the SMU during the inspection. The facility has dedicated sections of its housing units to serve as COVID-19 wings; there were twelve positive COVID-19 cases on-site during this remote inspection. The health care unit is not a licensed infirmary, but does have three one-bed rooms used for patient observations; two are negative air pressure rooms.



Each living area, except the SMU, has a common dayroom equipped with a television, a telephone bank, and fixed table/chair units for detainees to eat their meals, play games, and gather for conversation. Each housing unit is furnished with two video-visiting stations and a bank of tablets on which detainees can review the facility handbook, submit detainee requests, file grievances, request sick call slips, order commissary, access their commissary account balance, send emails, and partake in fee-based entertainment programs. Dayrooms and the tablets are accessible daily from 7:30 a.m. to 9:45 p.m.

On-site Monday through Friday visitation has continued throughout COVID-19 conditions, but in a restrictive non-contact setting with rigid safety protocols enforced. Off-site video-visits are permitted daily. Detainees are provided daily indoor and outdoor recreation.

The inspectors conducted eighteen confidential detainee interviews during the inspection; fourteen required the use of a language line. The detainees ranged from two months to two years of detention in the facility. All of the detainees stated they felt safe at the facility and had not been threatened or mistreated by staff or other detainees. All but two of the detainees stated they received the facility handbook during intake; those individuals had signed a receipt for the handbooks, but another copy was issued anyway.

The detainees who registered medical concerns had their minor issues brought to the attention of the health services administrator by the medical SME. All concerns had been previously addressed and proper care/treatment had been provided. Emergency follow-up appointments for these individuals was not necessary; routine care for their concerns had been scheduled.

Many of the detainees stated they did not like the food citing no fruit, vegetables or other protein sources and too much starch. These concerns were discussed with the kitchen manager by the safety SME. All cycle menus have been approved by a registered dietician as meeting or exceeding the nutritional requirements set by the USRDA. There is ample entrée variety in the 28-day menu. No further action was necessary.

There was some concern about the absence of ICE/ERO contact in the housing units. This issue was discussed with the supervising detention and deportation officer (SDDO) by the detainee rights SME. The stated schedule calls for an ICE/ERO presence in the facility three days per week. Documentation to support the tours was not made available.

Several detainees complained about the lack of barbering services. This issue was discussed with the lieutenant by the safety SME. The rationale provided for the closure was due to COVID-19 conditions which puts social distancing at-risk if the services were offered.

Most of the detainees were awaiting deportation and were upset about the lack of information regarding their plight. According to ICE/ERO, definitive plans for deportation and/or asylum are frequently changing and answers as to when things will happen is simply not available at this time.

Overall, the detainee were content with their detention in the facility and the cleanliness of their living environment. Programs and recreation time were not an expressed concern. All detainees interviewed were asked if they had filed a grievance and/or contacted the Office of Inspector General (OIG). If they replied in the negative, they were informed of the grievance process and the availability of the OIG.

Medical services are provided by Corizon Health. Food service operations are contracted with Tiggs Canteen Service. Detainee telephone, tablet, and video visitation services are provided by ICSolutions. ICE detainee are not charged medical co-pays.



# Areas of Concern/Significant Observations

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 validate the observation of many standards. 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 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) Standards were rated as Does Not Meet Standard and one (1) standard was Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining thirty-two (32) standards were found to Meet Standards.

# **LCI Assurance Statement**

The findings of compliance and noncompliance are accurately and completely documented on the G-324A Inspection Form and are supported by documentation in the inspection file. A call-in out brief was conducted at the facility and in addition to the entire Nakamoto Group, Inc. Inspection Team, the following were present:

• Facility Staff –	
• ICE Officials –	
, Lead Compliance Inspector	March 3, 2021
Printed Name of LCI	Date