

October 21, 2021

TO:

Acting Assistant Director Custody Management

FROM:

Lead Compliance Inspector The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

SUBJECT: Annual Occupancy Inspection of the Golden State Annex

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the ICE Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) 2011 of the Golden State Annex in McFarland, California during the period of October 19-21, 2021. This is a CDF.

The annual inspection was performed under the guidance of Lead Compliance Inspector. Team members were:

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

Type of Inspection

This is a scheduled annual inspection to determine overall compliance with the ICE PBNDS 2011 for Over 72-hour facilities. The facility received a rating of Meets Standards during the March 2021 90-day Follow-up Inspection.

Inspection Summary

The Golden State Annex 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) 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 March and July October 2021 PBNDS inspections:



March 2021 90-Day Follow-up Inspection	
Meets Standards	40
Does Not Meet Standards	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	3

October 2021 Annual Inspection	
Meets Standards	40
Does Not Meet Standards	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	3

The inspection team identified four (4) deficient components in the following four (4) standards:

Staff-Detainee Communication – 1 Medical Care – 1 Significant Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention and Intervention – 1 Detainee Transfers - 1

The Golden State Annex is located in McFarland, California in a small business and residential neighborhood. It is owned and operated by The GEO Group, Inc. (detention contractor), a private corporation. The facility is a CDF and serves as an annex to the Mesa Verde Detention Facility, which is approximately 25 miles southeast of the site. During the first day of the inspection the facility housed male ICE detainees

Female detainees are permitted under the current contract.

The facility was built in the complex is comprised of a single one-story building. All housing and support services are accessed off the main corridor that stretches the length of the building. The outer perimeter of the compound is designed with two twelve-foot chain link fences with rows of razor ribbon affixed to both fencing runs. Between the fences, a movement detection system (microwave sensors) monitors the entire circumference of the compound. The facility is encircled by a paved perimeter road that is routinely patrolled by an armed officer in a vehicle 24 hours a day. Surveillance cameras offer visibility around the entire perimeter, into the housing units, the common areas, recreation yards, and interior movement corridors. All exterior building doors and interior movement corridor doors are controlled by central control staff, and are under constant camera surveillance through a surveillance camera network that is monitored 24 hours a day.

The facility has two housing unit wings that are each divided into four independent general population housing units; they are managed by direct supervision. All movement is escorted. All general population housing units are dormitory design ranging in size from the special management unit (SMU) wing off the intake area; There were detainees residing in the SMU during the inspection. A select housing unit/wing currently serves as a COVID-19 quarantine/isolation unit where newly admitted detainees and existing detainees are housed until negative testing results/protocols are complete. During the inspection, there were no active COVID-19 cases in the facility. The health care unit is not an infirmary but does have two rooms with one bed in each used for short-term treatment and/or observation and isolation. Each room is under monitored camera surveillance

All deputies and medical staff carry a radio. The facility does not currently offer on-site visitation due to COVID-19 conditions, except for legal visits. Only a remote video-visit format is permissible for general visitation. It is a fee-based system. No accommodations have been established to permit detainees the opportunity to participate in general visitation at no charge. However, on October 21, 2021 the OIC set her hand to a plan to restore no-charge visiting privileges to all detainees starting November 5, 2021.



Each housing unit has a common dayroom equipped with three televisions, individual telephone stations, a bank of electronic tablets, LexisNexis computer work stations, and fixed table/chair units for detainees to eat their meals, play games, and gather for conversation. Each general population housing unit is equipped with two private telephone booths (Lyons Agreement booths) allowing detainees to make private legal calls during facility waking hours. Currently, housing unit A eats their meals in the central dining room; housing unit B eats their meals in the units' dayroom. Tablets are accessible daily from the housing unit officer from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. on Mondays through Fridays, and from 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m. on weekends and holidays. Tablets are available to detainees at a ratio of one tablet for ten detainees. Tablets provide detainees the ability to retrieve the facility handbook in several languages, order commissary, access commissary account balances, submit ICE/facility requests, retrieve all program/activity schedules, file grievances, read books, play games, send/receive emails, make telephone calls and listen to music. Detainees are provided daily indoor and outdoor recreation. Overall, the facility is very clean with noted isolated shower locations showing early signs of mold spores. This condition was discussed with the administrative staff and attention was pledged. This issue was also reported as a concern in the March 2021 inspection.

The inspectors conducted eight formal confidential detainee interviews, 24 informal detainee interviews in the housing units and law library, and interviews with three special management unit detainees during the inspection. The detainees' length of stay in the facility ranged from one month to thirteen months. All of the detainees stated they felt safe at the facility and had not been threatened or mistreated by staff or other detainees. Recreation time was satisfactory. Medical services were satisfactory. Food services were also acceptable with minor preferences expressed on variety and preparation techniques. All detainees interviewed stated they received the facility and National Detainee Handbook during intake. There were no substantive concerns expressed, except for connectivity issues with the housing unit tablets. Detainees alleged the screen images freeze during video-visits and they are charged for the time. This concern was discussed with the administrative staff by the LCI. The facility is aware of this persistent problem and are working with Talton Communications (tablet service contractor) for solutions. Detainees charged for the interrupted service have been reimbursed. One detainee expressed a concern with his right eye. This issue was discussed with the health services administrator by the medical SME. The detainee was in a fight prior to his detention at this facility and has since undergone surgery to repair his detached retina. He had follow-up care and has future appointments scheduled to monitor his recovery. No further action was necessary. Some of the detainees mentioned a mold concern in one of the housing units' shower stalls. The LCI walked with the administrative staff member into the cited housing unit shower areas and discovered a small presence of mold spores. Attention was pledged for elimination of the cited concern.

Overall, the detainees were very content with their living conditions, their safety and treatment, the cleanliness of the facility, the food, medical care, and responsiveness from facility staff. Most of the detainees were unaware of OIG services but were instructed as to its purpose and how to contact them.

There were no deaths, suicide attempts, escapes, hunger strikes, or calculated uses of force reported during this inspection period.

Medical, dental, mental health and maintenance services are provided by The Geo Group, Inc. employees. Detainee telephone and tablet services are provided by Talton Communication. Detainees are not charged co-pays for medical, mental health, or dental care services.

Areas of Concern/Significant Observations

This was a hybrid inspection in which some of the inspectors work remotely. Remote inspectors were unable to personally observe practices and procedures within the facility and relied upon photographs and/or videos to validate the observation of many standards. The facility did not furnish a completed Outcome



Measure Report; the OIC and AFOD were aware of its need in the final document package. 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 Performance-Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS) 2011 for Over 72-hour facilities. No (0) standards were rated as 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 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. In addition to the entire Nakamoto Group, Inc. Inspection Team (one SME via conference call) and the following were present:



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