



The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

January 13, 2022

TO: [REDACTED]
Acting Assistant Director Custody Management

FROM: [REDACTED]
Lead Compliance Inspector
The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

SUBJECT: **Annual Inspection of the Imperial Regional Detention Facility**

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the ICE Performance Based National Detention Standards (PBNDS 2011 with 2016 revisions) of the Imperial Regional Detention Facility in Calexico, California during the period of January 11-13, 2022. This is a CDF.

The inspection was performed under the guidance of [REDACTED] Lead Compliance Inspector. Team Members were:

Subject Matter Field	Team Member
Detainee Rights	[REDACTED]
Security	[REDACTED]
Medical Care	[REDACTED]
Medical Care	[REDACTED]
Safety	[REDACTED]

Type of Inspection

This is a scheduled annual inspection which is performed to determine overall compliance with the ICE PBNDS 2011 for Over 72-hour facilities. The facility received a rating of Meets Standards during the January 2021 inspection.

Inspection Summary

The Imperial Regional Detention Facility 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 2021 and 2022 compliance annual inspections:



<i>2021 Annual Inspection</i>	
Meets Standards	42
Does Not Meet Standards	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	1

<i>2022 Annual Inspection</i>	
Meets Standards	42
Does Not Meet Standards	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	1

No deficiencies were identified in any component.

Facility Snapshot/Description

The Imperial Regional Detention Facility is owned by the Imperial Valley Gateway Center, LLC. Management and Training Corporation (MTC) contracts with ICE to operate the facility. The facility is located in the eastern outskirts of Calexico California approximately 130 miles east of the San Diego International Airport. The facility, constructed in [REDACTED] has a total capacity of [REDACTED] beds and an operational capacity of [REDACTED] beds. The facility houses adult male ICE detainees of all classification levels and female ICE detainees classified as low and medium custody. On the first day of the inspection, the total population was [REDACTED] which included [REDACTED] male and [REDACTED] female ICE detainees. [REDACTED]

The facility is a single-level structure containing eleven general population housing units each with a capacity of [REDACTED] beds. Both cell and dormitory beds are available. The facility also has a special management unit (SMU) which contains [REDACTED] beds. All housing units are provided direct supervision by detention officers; oversight of the housing unit and hallways is supplemented by multiple cameras mounted inside the units and throughout the facility. Two fourteen-foot fences surround the perimeter. Both fences are enhanced with razor ribbon on and between the fences. Additionally, a vibration sensor shaker system is installed on the interior fence. Mounted cameras provide visual surveillance.

Each general population housing unit has a dayroom area equipped with tables, chairs, two televisions, seven telephones, nine electronic tablets, board games, card games, and a sufficient number of showers and washbasins. There is an outdoor recreation area attached to each general population housing unit which is available to detainees daily between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. The facility has a large recreation yard where detainees may engage in various exercise activities such as walking, jogging, basketball, volleyball, and intramural games. Detainees housed in general population have access to this large outdoor recreation area two hours per day, seven days a week. Detainees housed in the SMU have access to recreation and/or leisure time areas out of their cells two to three hours per day, seven days a week. Detainees in low and medium-low custody are permitted to participate in the voluntary work program outside of their housing unit. The facility offers a variety of educational and training classes to detainees.

In addition to access to telephones for communications, electronic tablets are provided in each housing unit and are available in the SMU. Detainees may use an electronic tablet to communicate with various facility and ICE staff, file a grievance, order commissary, and access various educational and gaming applications. For a fee, detainees may communicate with family and friend via email, engage in video visits, or download music and videos.



All detainees arriving at the facility are placed in a fourteen-day cohort (quarantine status) due to COVID-19 protocols. Detainees are classified prior to placement in the cohort status. Additionally, ICE suspended onsite general/social visitation for ICE detainees in March 2020. Legal and professional visitation are exempt from this suspension. To mitigate the impact of the visitation suspension, ICE provides each detainee with thirteen, ten-minute free telephone calls each week. The suspension of non-employee volunteers entering the facility has also impacted various programs. The facility plans to return to social/general visitation in accordance with the ICE Phased Plan to Return to Social Visitation once they meet the criteria. This plan is on hold due to the current surge in COVID-19 cases.

Inspectors working onsite were unable visit all of the housing units due to many of them being on cohort status. The housing units not on cohort status and other areas of the facility were visited and inspectors noted that cleanliness throughout the facility was above average. All staff interviewed during the inspection were well versed in the requirements of the standards and in facility policy. It was noted that several officers assisting the inspectors were in temporary assignments due to the regularly assigned officers being absent due to COVID-19. These officers were knowledgeable and able to find all documentation requested by the inspectors. Interaction between detainees and staff was observed to be cordial.

Five detainees were formally interviewed telephonically in a private setting by the security SME who was working remotely. None of the detainees voiced any substantive complaints. One detainee who was housed in SMU complained that the showers were full of mold and the recreation area was dirty. Onsite inspectors observed these areas and found them to be in good condition and clean. No mold was observed in the shower area. The detainee also stated that he had filed a number of grievances. He stated that he had received responses to all of them, but he was not happy with the responses. He informed the inspector that he is filing at least one grievance per day. A review of the grievance log determined that the detainee is responsible for the majority of the grievances. The detainee stated that he had contacted the OIG and that OIG personnel had visited the facility and had interviewed him. He has not heard from them since.

Eight detainees were formally interviewed by an onsite inspector in a private setting. LEP detainees speaking Spanish, Turkish, Farsi, and Russian were interviewed using a telephonic translation service. Six detainees stated that they felt safe at the facility. One detainee stated that he did feel safe but was concerned about COVID-19. One of the detainees did not answer the question. He insisted on showing the inspector his legal paperwork in spite of having been told at the start of the interview that the inspector did not work for ICE and has no knowledge of his case. When the detainee was reminded of this he became angry and became verbally abusive toward the inspector and the interpreter. The inspector ended the interview and the detainee was returned to his housing unit.

Several of the detainees stated the food was bad and complained about chicken being served several times a week. Others stated that it was good. The safety SME reviewed the menus and found that chicken is served three to four times each week but not twice a day as some detainees stated. Three detainees voiced concerns about their medical treatment. A review of their medical charts indicated that all three detainees have been seen and treated by medical staff. Two of them are receiving medication. Medical staff stated that they would schedule all three detainees for follow-up. There were several complaints regarding officers being rude and speaking loudly in the housing units and it was reported that one officer on dayshift sleeps all of the time. This information was provided to the OIC. Detainees stated that ICE officers visit the housing units frequently. None of the detainees had filed a grievance but were aware of the process. None of the detainees had contacted the OIG and those who were not aware of the process to contact the OIG were provided with instructions. A detainee from Turkey stated that he was having difficulty communicating with anyone as no one in his housing unit spoke his language and his English is limited. This was brought to the attention of facility and ICE staff. The ICE DO stated that he would look into the sit-



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uation and would see if there was another detainee from Turkey with a compatible classification designation that would allow the detainees to be housed in the same housing unit.

Ten detainees were interviewed informally in a non-confidential setting. None of the detainees voiced any concerns. All of the detainees interviewed during the inspection stated that the telephones work, they are aware of the availability of the law library, and that they are provided the opportunity for outside recreation daily.

Detainee telephone services are provided via the ICE contract with Talton. All other services are provided by MTC staff. Detainees are not charged co-pay fees for medical, dental, or mental health services.

During the inspection, optimal compliance was found while reviewing the following standards: Admission and Release, Special Management Unit, Use of Force, Medical Care, Medical Care–Women, Significant Self-Harm and Suicide Prevention, Terminal Illness, Advance Directives and Death, Recreation, and Telephone Access.

Due to COVID-19 this was a hybrid inspection with two inspectors working remotely (security SME and medical SME). The facility provided the remote inspectors all requested documentation, photographs, and videos as evidence of practices and procedures within the facility. In addition to these materials, staff were interviewed by the inspection team. All staff interviewed were well versed in facility policy and the requirements of the standards and were responsive to all requests made by the inspection team.

The facility has developed a COVID-19 plan to address exposures/infections. During the inspection there were seventeen detainees with active COVID cases. Several staff members were also absent due to testing positive for COVID.

Areas of Concern/Significant Observations

There were no areas of concern or significant observations during this inspection.

Recommended Rating and Justification

The Lead Compliance Inspector recommends that the facility receive a rating of Meets Standards. The facility complies with the ICE National Detention Standards (PBNDS 2011) unless unobserved practices and conditions are contrary to what was reported to the inspection team. No (0) standards were found Does Not Meet Standard and one (1) standard was Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining forty-two (42) standards were found to Meet Standards.

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 with two inspectors participating telephonically. In addition to the Nakamoto Group onsite inspectors, the following participated:

- ICE Officials – [REDACTED]



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- Facility Staff – [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] January 13, 2022
Lead Compliance Inspector Date

