



The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

September 23, 2021

TO: [REDACTED]
Acting Assistant Director Custody Management

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

SUBJECT: **Annual Inspection of the Seneca County Jail**

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual hybrid inspection for compliance with the ICE National Detention Standards (NDS) of the Seneca County Jail in Tiffin, Ohio during the period of September 21-23, 2021. This is an IGSA facility.

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

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

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 Meets Standards during the January 2021 - 180 Day Reinspection.

Inspection Summary

The Seneca County Jail 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 2021 - 180 Day Reinspection and the 2021 NDS annual inspection.



<i>2021- 180 Day Reinspection</i>		<i>2021 Annual Inspection</i>	
Meets Standards	37	Meets Standards	37
Does Not Meet Standards	0	Does Not Meet Standards	0
Repeat Finding	0	Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	2	Not Applicable	2

The inspection team identified six (6) deficient components in the following four (4) standards:

- Post Orders – 1
- Special Management Unit (Administrative) – 2
- Special Management Unit (Disciplinary) – 2
- Transportation (Land) – 1

Facility Snapshot/Description

The Seneca County Jail was opened in 1994 and is located in Tiffin, Ohio. The facility is owned by the County of Seneca and operated by the Seneca County Sheriff's Department. The [REDACTED] and employs direct and indirect model of supervision to all custody levels of adult male and female detainees for ICE and Seneca County inmates. [REDACTED]

ICE detainees are comingled in five of the eight independent housing units with populations of similar custody levels. One housing unit occupying detainees has sixteen cells with two beds each while the remaining ICE housing units are open dormitories ranging from 26 to sixty beds. The special management unit (SMU) has eight cells with four single-occupancy cells and four double-occupancy cells. Living units are well lit with both natural and artificial light and have adequate open space for detainees. The day-rooms in each of the housing units are furnished with tables and chairs for detainees to participate in leisure time activities and socializing. Inspections of the housing units verified that board games, leisure reading material, playing cards, and televisions are among the amenities available to detainees. Computer tablets are available in the living units to assist detainees in communicating with family, ordering commissary items, and checking their account balances. The tablets are not programmed to submit electronic detainee requests to ICE.

The facility provides two dedicated areas for detainee recreation. The outdoor recreation area is covered but equipped with screened openings that allow for natural light and fresh air to enter. Exercise in the outside recreation area is limited to walking and/or jogging. Indoor recreation areas are contained within each housing unit and equipped with stationary exercise equipment for detainee use. Detainees interviewed reported that they have daily access to indoor and outdoor recreational activities.

General visitation and group religious services have been temporarily suspended due to health concerns associated with the COVID-19 virus. Visits from legal representatives have not been suspended. The facility has placed video monitors in the lobby to provides detainees the opportunity for video family visitation. Video visits are free, must be scheduled in advance, are available seven days a week, and are unlimited.

COVID-19 prevention protocols require that every detainee newly committed to the Seneca County Jail is placed in quarantine for fourteen days. Prior to being released from quarantine the detainee must test neg-



ative. During this inspection, the facility did not have any detainees that have tested positive for COVID-19.

The facility is reported to be climate controlled and appeared to be in good repair. All staff interviewed were well-versed in facility guidelines and operating procedures as well as the National Detention Standards. Officers and staff were professional during interviews and detainees spoke willingly and respectfully. On-site observations, sanitation inspection reports, and interviews with staff and detainees determined that the sanitation level of the facility is acceptable.

During this inspection period, there were three use-of-force incidents; all were reviewed by senior management staff. There was one serious incident causing serious bodily injury to a staff member. A detainee pushed a sergeant and refused to comply with orders to be handcuffed. The detainee became combative, and staff placed the detainee on the floor where the detainee continued to fight staff. Staff gave orders to stop resisting or the taser would be used. The taser was used. The detainee then raised his hands and complied with orders to be handcuffed. Medical removed the tasers and treated the detainee. The staff member received an injury to his shoulder during the altercation. The second and third incidents were immediate use-of-force incidents in which the detainees became agitated and requested placement in the restraint chair. All protocol procedures for the use of the restraint chair were complied with.

The inspection team interviewed 21 LEP and English-speaking detainees housed at the facility. Formal interviews were conducted with the assistance of an interpreter or the translation line when needed. There were no substantive concerns voiced when asked about their personal safety, treatment by staff, mail services, recreation programs, or access to ICE. Two detainees complained that they had submitted written requests to receive a medical appointment but that they had not been seen by medical staff. The medical SME confirmed that both detainees had been given medical appointments and were receiving treatment. Detainees interviewed were asked if they had submitted their concerns to the Office of Inspector General. No detainee reported that they had submitted their concerns beyond facility or ICE staff.

All detainees interviewed verified that they received a local and National Detainee Handbook during the admission process. LEP detainees interviewed confirmed that facility memorandum, posters, and other types of key information are posted in English and Spanish throughout the facility.

Food, medical, and maintenance services are provided by Seneca County personnel. The facility does not charge co-pays for medical, mental health, or dental care. The facility doctor, dentist, and mental health services are contracted with local providers.

Detainee telephone services are provided by PayTel Communications via contract with the facility. Computer tablets available in each of the detainee housing units are provided by Stellar Services.

Areas of Concern/Significant Observations

This was a hybrid inspection. Three inspectors were on-site. The other two inspectors were unable to personally observe practices and procedures within the facility but were able to view photographs, interview staff, and review files and documentation. 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 (NDS). No (0) standards were found Does

