

October 4, 2018

TO:

Assistant Director for Detention Management

FROM:

Lead Compliance Inspector The Nakamoto Group, Inc.

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

The Nakamoto Group, Inc. performed an annual inspection for compliance with the ICE National Detention Standards (NDS) of the Seneca County Jail in Tiffin, OH during the period of October 2 - 4, 2018. This is an IGSA facility.

The inspection was performed under the guidance of 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 for Over 72 hour facilities. The facility received a previous rating of Acceptable during the October 2017 inspection.

#### **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 2017 and 2018 annual inspections:



2017 Annual Inspection	
Acceptable	38
Deficient	0
At Risk	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	1

2018 Annual Inspection	
Acceptable	38
Deficient	0
At Risk	0
Repeat Finding	0
Not Applicable	1

The inspection team identified eleven (11) deficient components in the following six (6) standards:

Admission and Release – 1, which is a repeat deficiency Correspondence and Other Mail – 2
Funds and Personal Property – 3
Recreation – 1
Key and Lock Control – 1, which is a repeat deficiency
Staff Detainee Communication – 3, two of which are repeat deficiencies

# **Facility Snapshot/Description**

The Seneca County Jail is owned by Seneca County and operates under the jurisdiction of the Seneca County Sheriff's Department. The facility opened in 1994.

The facility does not house juveniles.

The facility is a multi-story building with the secure perimeter comprised of exterior building walls and sections of a twelve-foot chain link fence supplemented by razor ribbon at the top. The entire perimeter is under camera surveillance that is continuously monitored by dispatch and/or central control officers. There is a road that encircles the entire compound. It is patrolled 24 hours a day by armed officers. All exterior door egress is controlled by central control officers. The entire facility is surveilled by 64 cameras which are continuously monitored by dispatch and/or central control officers.

The jail consists of eight separate housing units. ICE detainees are housed amongst non-ICE detainees with compatible custody levels. Five of the housing units/wings range in size from eight to sixteen cells each with two beds. The remaining three housing units are dormitory style settings ranging from twenty-six to sixty beds. Support services are accessed throughout the facility. All housing units are managed by direct supervision or roving officers. Both indoor and outdoor recreation is provided to general population and administrative segregation status detainees at least five days a week. Disciplinary segregation status detainees receive one hour out-of-cell time, five days a week.

Each housing unit has a dayroom area with tables, chairs, a television, telephones, and a sufficient number of showers and wash basins. General population housing units have a bank of electronic tablets that detainees can check-out by entering their personal access code. Their use is timed. Current tablet capabilities include commissary ordering and e-mail privileges, which are fee based. ICE detainees participate in the voluntary work program and have access to educational classes, support programming options, recreational activities, television viewing and social dayroom gatherings to occupy their time.



Housing unit and work area atmospheres were relaxed, orderly and free of any perceived tension. Communication between staff and detainees was informal yet respectful. Sanitation in the housing units, notably the showers, was poor.

The inspection team conducted 56 detainee interviews during the course of the inspection. All of them with English speaking detainees. There were no substantive complaints but numerous favorable comments about the food. Although the documentation for weekly ICE visits was scant, detainees registered no serious concerns about access to ICE personnel. The facility has a staff member whose fulltime job description is ICE Liaison Officer. This officer interacts with ICE detainees daily and is aware of their concerns and histories.

Food, medical and maintenance services are provided by Seneca County employees. Medical services and psychiatric/mental health services are provided through purchase-of-service contracts with local providers. There is no medical co-pay for health care.

### **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 (NDS). No standards were found Deficient and one (1) standard was Not Applicable (N/A). All remaining thirty-eight (38) 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:

