

CRCI & SFFC CURRENTS

June 14th, 2023

Superintendent: J. Hanson

Editor: J. Hanley



A Letter from the Corrections Ombudsman:

In 2022 the Oregon legislature funded an independent Corrections Ombudsman position located in the Governor's Office. One of the primary purposes of this position is to strengthen procedures and practices which lessen the possibility that objectionable corrections actions will occur.

The Corrections Ombudsman has the power: to investigate, on complaint or on the Ombudsman's own motion, any action by the Department of Corrections (DOC) or any employee thereof without regard to its finality. However, pursuant to ORS 423.425, the Ombudsman may decide not to investigate complaints that are trivial, frivolous, vexatious, or not made in good faith, as well as those that are too long delayed or could reasonably be expected to be resolved through a different administrative process.

The position is located within the Governor's Office and is not accountable to and does not

report to the DOC in any manner. All communications to the Ombudsman are confidential and **no** person who files a complaint to the Ombudsman pursuant to ORS 423.400 to 423.450 shall be subject to any penalties, sanctions or restrictions because of such complaint. If any person willfully obstructs or hinders the proper and lawful exercise of the Ombudsman's powers, or willfully misleads or attempts to mislead the Ombudsman in inquiries under ORS 423.400 to 423.450, a Marion County Circuit Court judge, on application of the Ombudsman, shall compel obedience by proceedings for contempt.

Because the modern version of this position is new, it will take some time to establish the office and build the Ombudsman team. While I am processing and replying to all complaints, please be advised that this is a very slow process. For now, please take the survey below and kyte or write a letter with your answers to the address below.

1. How many people on your contact list have tried to get validated with the IC Solutions phone system?
2. How many have been successful so far?
3. What stopped them from getting registered (they have a prepaid phone, can't get a credit card, system is too complicated, etc.)
4. How long have you been waiting for someone to get validated (ex. "I haven't talked to my partner in six weeks because they can't get validated).
5. What other DOC issues are important to you?

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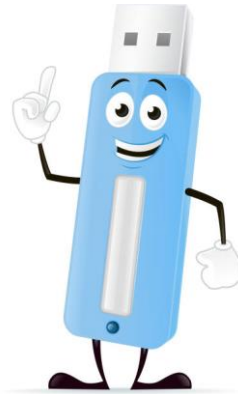
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Please send responses by kyte or letter to-

Adrian Wulff
Corrections Ombuds
900 Court St. SE Suite 254
Salem, OR 97301

Hotline Number- (833)-685-0842

Thank you,
Adrian Wulff, LPC
Corrections Ombuds



Law Library News

In an effort to minimize the likelihood of device and file corruption, thumb drives assigned to AICs by the Law Library will now be replaced every two years. Each AIC will be required to sign a new Removable Media Usage

Acknowledgement Statement (CD 1761) every time your legal thumb drive is replaced.

Over the next few months, every AIC with an assigned legal thumb drive will be placed on call out to review their saved files and a Library Coordinator will transfer the files to a brand-new, unused thumb drive. If you do not approve the transfer of your files to a new legal thumb drive, you will not be allowed access to a legal thumb drive until you accept a new one or release from DOC custody, whichever comes first.

The new legal thumb drives have larger storage capacity. AICs will now be limited to two levels of folders on the legal thumb drive. (See example below.) You will be expected to reorganize your existing folders when transferring to the new thumb drive. This will aid you in organization of your files and assist Library Coordinators in auditing your thumb drive each quarter (every 3 months).

Example of 2 folder levels - Authorized:



Example of 3 folder levels – NOT authorized:



Shorts can only be worn on your housing unit, to and from yard, and chow.

Tank Tops can only be worn on your housing unit and to and from the yard.



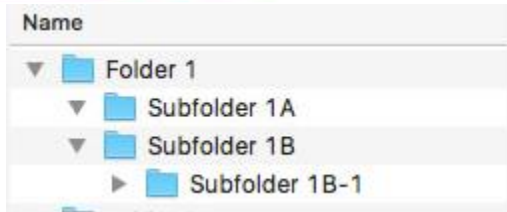
Shorts/Tank Tops CANNOT be worn to work, Counselor/BHS callouts, Visiting, Education, Volunteer Classes, and Medical/Dental appointments unless authorized by Medical.

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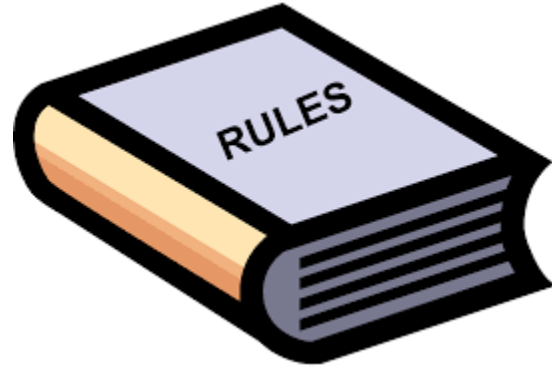
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We know this may be an inconvenient change for some AICs, but we are confident that the new replacement process will limit device and file corruption in the future. If you have questions or concerns, please kyte the Law Library.



Program Services can no longer provide you a phone call to the IRS or any other Financial Institution. AICs will need to write them. This does not pertain to Education & FASFA.



From the Administrative Rules Program:

Below is the list of status changes made to DOC administrative rules since 3/31/2023.

PERMANENT RULES:

291-009 Tours

- Amends rule to update the term used to refer to adults in custody, remove gendered language, remove designee for tour approvals, and update those interested groups and individuals that may be allowed tours.
- Effective 5/4/23

291-052 Transfers and Responsibilities Between Oregon Youth Authority and Department of Corrections

- Amends rule to confirm that transfers to youth correction facilities must be authorized under and consistent with applicable state statutes and include changes in terminology and other technical corrections.
- Effective 5/24/23

291-069 Security Threat Management

- Amends rule to increase the number of days allowed for temporary segregation; change the term "inmate" to "adult in custody" to incorporate the new statutory term for individuals incarcerated in DOC institutions; and modify the identification of AICs assigned to the STM caseload.

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- Repeals Attachment A "High Alert Adult in Custody" and renames former Attachment B "STM Restriction Scale" to Attachment A.
- Effective 4/28/23

291-077 Performance Recognition and Award System

- Amends rule to adjust the PRAS matrix creating a more even point spread in the first three levels; add two more levels to reduce the chance of "maxing out"; and include an overall 25 percent increase in the dollar value of each level of the PRAS matrix to counteract the effects of the consumer price index and the impact this had on canteen increases.
- Effective 5/16/23

291-105 Prohibited Conduct and Processing Disciplinary Actions

- Amends rule to permanently adopt changes to the rule that were temporarily adopted on 1/1/2023 reducing the maximum consecutive sanction to DSU from 180 days to 90 days, including amendment to major and minor violation grids; for minor grammatical changes; and for consistency.
- Effective 5/23/23

291-113 Education and Training Programs

- Amends rule to align with current practice; change "inmate" to "AIC"; and for other minor grammatical revisions, clarifications, and consistency.
- Effective 5/24/23



USPS will be phasing out the Priority Tracking manual label, which will result in DOC being unable to provide tracking numbers for outgoing mail. AICs who purchase priority mail boxes from Commissary should be aware of this change.



**Thank you,
Commissary**

Statement by President Joe Biden on Juneteenth

One year ago, I had the great honor of signing legislation to establish Juneteenth as a national



holiday—the first new federal holiday since Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day nearly four decades ago. Juneteenth marks both the long, hard night of slavery and subjugation and a promise of a brighter morning to come. It is a day of profound weight and power that reminds us of our extraordinary capacity to heal, hope, and emerge from our most painful moments into a better version of ourselves. Great nations don't ignore their most painful moments. They confront them to grow stronger. And that is what this great nation must continue to do.

But, it's not enough to just commemorate Juneteenth. Emancipation marked the beginning, not the end, of America's work to deliver on the promise of equality. To honor the true meaning of Juneteenth, we must not rest until we deliver the promise of America for all Americans.

That is why Vice President Harris and I have appointed leadership in the federal government that looks like America. Our Administration is taking a whole-of-government approach to advance equity and racial justice and address the lasting impacts of systemic racism on Black communities. We have implemented initiatives to expand economic opportunity for Black families, provided historic support for Historically Black Colleges and Universities, improved health outcomes for Black communities, and taken important steps to protect voting rights, advance police reform, and enhance access to justice.

This is a day to celebrate, to educate, and to act. As we mark Juneteenth, my Administration will continue our efforts to root out inequity from our country and institutions and ensure true liberty and justice for all.