

POLICY

1 SUBJECT AREA
2 960-999 Civil Rights
3 & Opportunities
4

EFFECTIVE DATE:

UNITS AFFECTED:- All
Correctional Facilities

5 INTRODUCTION

6 The telephone, can provide inmates with a valuable means of communi-
7 cating with family and friends as well as attorneys, courts, and social
8 agencies. Inmates should be afforded regular opportunities to communicate
9 by telephone with persons in the community.

10 OBJECTIVE

11 To provide guidelines for the development of procedures at individual
12 facilities regulating residents' use of the telephone.

13 GROUP SERVED

14 Staff and inmates at all correctional facilities.

15 DESCRIPTION OF POLICY

16 Inmates should be allowed access to a telephone on a regular basis
17 to place and receive calls with attorneys, courts and public officials,
18 and family and friends.

19 Procedures for telephone use should take into account the overall
20 security, order and management requirements of the facility, specific programs
21 and individual inmates. Procedures should also consider facility constraints
22 such as: population, staff, number of telephones, etc.

23 Inmate telephone conversation may be monitored if there is clear
24 reason to believe the security of the facility may be threatened. If a

25 telephone conversation is to be monitored, the inmate and the other party
26 shall be so informed before the conversation begins.

27 Inmates in detention status should receive special consideration as
28 outlined in Policy 446 "Detentioners/Safekeepers".

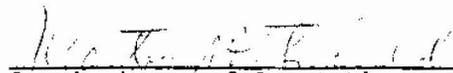
29 Ordinarily the Department will not pay for telephone calls. However,
30 in emergency situations the Superintendent of a facility may in exercise
31 of his discretion, authorize a call by an inmate at the facility's expense
32 if the inmate cannot arrange to pay for it.

33 Implementation:

34 Each facility shall develop a procedure for regulating the inmate's
35 use of the telephone. Though they will vary depending upon the need and
36 the capabilities of specific facilities, the procedures developed must be
37 in accordance with this policy.

LEGAL REFERENCE

28 VSA, Sec. 1(b)(c), 102(b)(2), 804



Commissioner of Corrections
(Acting)