



*State of North Carolina
Department of Public Safety
Prisons*

Chapter: D
Section: .0200
Title: **Visitation Policy/Procedure**
Issue Date: 05/23/22
Supersedes: 10/29/18
Expiration: Policy Revision Publication

INTERIM POLICY AND PROCEDURE

The purpose of this interim policy is to make a change to a policy prior to the annual review date. The interim policy will be incorporated into the actual policy during the next annual review. All interim policies shall be updated no more than six months past the annual review date.

NEW LANGUAGE

.0202

- (c) Completed applications **may** be returned by U.S. Mail to the **Warden** where the offender is currently housed **or may be accepted via TextBehind** prior to the visitor being allowed to visit. Applications are not to be sent directly to the offender. Visitors that have not been approved will not be allowed to visit.

.0203

- (c) 4th paragraph

Prisons recognizes the important role that the clergy has on an offender's rehabilitation. When a clergy visit is scheduled, the facility should allow the visit to be conducted in a private setting if possible. The clergy visit should not be counted as the standard one visit per week **or two visits per month** that offenders are allowed. Clergy may be approved to visit on more than one offender's visitation list; however, they will not be able to visit with more than one offender at a time. Each offender may have only one approved clergy visitor on their list at a time.

.0209

- (b) Indefinite statewide suspension of visitation privilege is generally reserved for serious violations of Prisons policy. Examples of these types of violations may include, but are not limited to, assisting with an escape or escape attempt; smuggling or attempting to smuggle contraband, that is a threat to security, into the facility (drugs, alcohol, weapons, etc.); or participating in an act of violence towards staff, offenders, or other visitors. Visitation privilege will be indefinitely suspended for any visitor that refuses to submit to a routine search prior to or during regular visitation. The driver of a vehicle that refuses to submit to a search of their vehicle, property, or person during a drug interdiction will have their visitation privilege indefinitely suspended. An ex-employee whose visitation privilege is terminated in accordance with section .0206 (b) of this policy will have their visitation privilege indefinitely suspended. Suspended visitors shall be advised that they may appeal in writing to the Warden of the facility housing the offender or their designated representative requesting restoration of visiting privileges and their justification for this action. Indefinite statewide suspension appeals shall be made in writing to the Commissioner of Prisons or their

designee. The Indefinite Suspension written appeal shall contain a request for restoration of visiting privileges and a specific justification for the reinstatement. Indefinite Suspensions can be appealed on **twelve-month** intervals beginning from the date of the visitation suspension. Facility staff is responsible for entering all visiting suspensions into OPUS including detailed comments.

SUMMARY:

- .0202 (c) has been revised to address TextBehind. The requirement stating “Copies will not be accepted” has been removed.
- .0203 (c) has been revised to address changes to the visitation allowance of close custody offenders addressed in .0214 (b).
- .0209 (b) has been revised, changing the duration of indefinite suspension review intervals from 6 months to 12 months.

FILING:

This Interim Policy will be filed in the Power DMS system and on the Prisons web page along with the original policy.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Director of Operations is responsible for ensuring the content of this interim policy and procedure is included in a revised policy and updated through the annual review process.



Commissioner of Prisons

May 23, 2022

Date

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