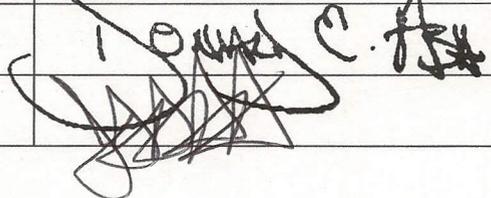


Wyandotte County Sheriff's Office Detention Center Standard Operating Procedures			Number: F-110
Subject: Detainee Access to Courts		ACA Standards: 4-ALDF: 5B-08,2A-62	
Section: Detainee Rights, Privileges, Services, and Programs			
Effective Date: 09-19-08 Revised: 12-02-10		Date of Last Review: 12-02-10	
Approved By:	Sheriff of Wyandotte County		
Approved By:	Jail Administrator		



I. POLICY

Detainees of the Detention Center have the right to present issues to the Courts. The Detention Center and its staff will not deny or hinder, in any way, a detainee's right to have access to the Courts.

II. DEFINITIONS

Access to Court: Arrangements shall be made by the Detention Center for detainees to present issues to the Court, including the following: challenging the legality of their conviction or confinement; seeking redress for illegal conditions or treatment while under correctional control; pursuing remedies in connection with civil legal problems; and asserting against correctional or other government authority any other rights protected by constitutional or statutory provisions or common law.

III. PROCEDURES

A. Written Communication with the Courts:

1. Deputies will ensure that all written communications from detainees to the court has a return address and is .
2. Written communications to the court will be mailed or delivered promptly without being opened, censored, or read (see Policy and Procedure, Section F-115 Detainee Mail).

3. In a case where a detainee does not have funds for postage, Programs will provide postage upon receipt of a written request from the detainee.
4. Detainees may have access to a Notary Public, as long as they complete a Detainee/Inmate Communication Form requesting this service. Papers to be notarized should be kept by the detainee. A notary will come to their pod to provide this service.

B. Access to Legal Materials:

1. Detainees will be allowed access to legal materials through the Detention Center library to assist them with criminal, civil and administrative legal matters. (See Policy and Procedure, Section F-135 Detainee Access to Library and Section F-190 Administrative Segregation).
2. Detainees in special management units have access to legal materials

C. Retention of Personal Legal Materials in Cells:

Detainees will be allowed to retain one (1) cardboard box of their personal legal papers and materials in their individual pods. Excess materials will be mailed home at the inmate's expense. Failure to send such materials home will result in the destruction of such materials. Reasonable notice of such proposed destruction will be given to the detainee.

D. Access to Counsel:

Detainees will be afforded confidential access to attorneys and their authorized representatives through visits, uncensored correspondence, telephone communications and after hours visits because of special circumstances. (See Policy and Procedure, Section F-115 Detainee Mail; Section F-160 Interviews; Section F-165 Detainee Visitation and Section F-180 Telephone).

E. Retaliation:

No detainee shall be punished or threatened for making allegations in petitions or other communications against the Detention Center or its officials.

F. Disciplinary Action:

Detainees may not, as a result of disciplinary actions, be denied access to the Courts or counsel.