

For further information
Contact
Jacqueline Lapine
Chief Public Information Officer
Tele: 573/522-1118
Direct FAX: 573/751-4099
P.O. Box 236
Jefferson City MO 65102



For Immediate Release...

Corrections News

October 14, 2009

Media Advisory: Department Adopts New Media Access Policy

Effective October 14, 2009, the Missouri Department of Corrections will follow a new policy concerning media access to offenders housed in our system and our facilities.

The department's priority is the safety and security of our staff, offenders, visitors and the surrounding community. We strive to maintain transparency in our organization. However, we must ensure efficient business practices are met, security is enhanced and the focus remains on daily operations.

Ultimately, the changes directly impact decisions and planning for news media. Therefore, we want to make you aware of the new guidelines in place.

Adopted Changes:

- ◆ Only one on-site media interview per week per facility.
- ◆ Media interviews will occur Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., only in the visiting room. No access will be allowed in the secure perimeter.
- ◆ Media interviews will be limited to one hour in duration.
- ◆ Approved interview equipment will be allowed in the visiting room only.
- ◆ There is no limit on phone interviews for offenders assigned to general population.
- ◆ The number of interviews for offenders assigned to pre-execution status will not be limited in number. The interviews will be no-contact and occur during the aforementioned hours.
- ◆ The department will not fulfill "inmate shopping" requests, identifying inmates that meet the needs of a media outlet's story.

To assist in your coverage of the Missouri Department of Corrections, the Public Information Office is working to compile new file footage of our DOC facilities. The video will be available in 4:3 aspect ratio only.

If you have any questions in regard to this policy, please contact the Public Information Office at (573) 522-1118.

###