



*State of North Carolina
Department of Public Safety
Prisons*

Chapter: D
Section: .0200
Title: **Visitation Policy/Procedure**
Issue Date: 12/01/21
Supersedes: 03/18/20
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

.0203

- (h) To the greatest extent practicable, after accounting for security and capacity, NCDPS Prisons shall assign housing to an offender who is the mother of a minor child under the age of 1 within 250 miles of the child's permanent address of record.
- (i) NCDPS Prisons shall authorize visitation of incarcerated mothers who are assigned to minimum custody classification, with their minor child(ren) under the age of 1. These visitations shall be allowed at least twice per week, for a period of no less than 1 hour and no more than 2 hours, unless a correctional facility employee has a reasonable belief that the child may be harmed during visitation. These visitations shall be allowed by contact visit. The employee denying visitation shall verbally inform the Warden/designee immediately and submit a written statement to the Warden/designee prior to the end of the shift the day of the denial of visitation. An incident report shall be completed at the direction of the Warden/designee. The report shall contain justification for denying visitation.

.0214

- (b) Visiting Hours, Number of Visitors, Age of Visitors, Frequency and Duration of Visits. Normally, offenders will be allowed no more than one visiting session per week not to exceed two hours. Normally, the maximum number of visitors per offender per visiting session will not exceed three approved visitors. Children (minors) under 18 years of age may be allowed to accompany the adults provided the adults and minors are on the approved visitor list and the minors remain under the immediate supervision of the adults during the visit. **Wardens, or their designee**, have the discretion, based on operational issues and space considerations, to modify the number of visitors that are allowed to visit at any one time. In these instances, the decision as to whether or not additional visitors are allowed to swap in and out of visitation will be at the discretion of the **Warden/designee**. If the **Warden/designee** allows visitors to swap in and out of visitation, a visitor will generally not be allowed to return to the visitation area once they have swapped out with another visitor. Whenever possible the appropriate setting should be made available for clergy, legal, and law enforcement visits. These visits should not be counted as the standard one visit per week that offenders are allowed. **Exceptions will be made for female offenders with children under the age of 1 per section .0203 of this policy.**

SUMMARY:

- .0203 (h) and (i) have been added to comply with NCGS 148-25.2.
- Current .0203 (h) has been renumbered to coincide with these changes.
- .0214 (b) has been revised to comply with NCGS 148-25.2.

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

December 1, 2021

Date

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