

3. Except for comments made orally at a public hearing, comments submitted regarding a notice of a rule proposal must be in writing, legible and intelligible in order to be considered by the Department.

(d) The Department may extend the designated public comment period:

1. When deemed necessary by the Department; or

2. For a period of 30 calendar days, when, within 30 calendar days of the publication of a proposal, sufficient public interest is demonstrated in an extension of the time for comment submissions. For purposes of this subsection, sufficient public interest for granting an extension of the public comment period exists when 50 or more individuals have communicated a specific request for the extension of the comment period in writing to the Department of Corrections. This communication must be directed to the individual who has been designated to receive comments in the notice of a rule proposal.

(e) A public hearing on the proposed rulemaking activity shall be conducted by the Department when:

1. A request for a public hearing from a committee of the Legislature, or a governmental agency or subdivision, is made to the Department within 30 calendar days of the publication of the proposed rulemaking activity in the N.J.R.; or

2. Sufficient public interest is shown by the public within 30 calendar days of the publication of the proposed rulemaking activity in the N.J.R. For purposes of this subsection, sufficient public interest for conducting a public hearing exists when 100 or more individuals have communicated a specific request for a public hearing and the basis for such a request in writing to the Department. This communication must be directed to the individual who has been designated to receive comments in the notice of a rule proposal.

i. In the calculation of the number of comments received expressing the request for a public hearing, the Department shall not consider the following:

(1) Comments from incarcerated, legally committed or confined individuals who are not authorized to attend a public hearing;

(2) Comments that relate to specific recommended amendments in the rule that the Department has agreed to make;

(3) Comments that relate to amendments that the Department does not have the legal authority to make; or

(4) Comments that relate to amendments that are required by law.

(f) Notice of a public hearing shall be published in the New Jersey Register (N.J.R.), at least 15 days prior to the public

hearing when feasible. If timely N.J.R. publication is not feasible, such notice may be published in the N.J.R. with less than 15 days notice, as long as notice of the public hearing is provided by posting the notice on the official website of the New Jersey Department of Corrections at www.state.nj.us/corrections at least 15 days prior to the public hearing.

New Rule, R.2001 d.455, effective December 3, 2001.

See: 33 N.J.R. 2941(a), 33 N.J.R. 4106(a).

Amended by R.2008 d.190, effective July 21, 2008.

See: 40 N.J.R. 1736(b), 40 N.J.R. 4323(a).

In (d)2, inserted "calendar" twice and substituted "a specific request" for "the need"; in (e)1, inserted "calendar"; in the introductory paragraph of (e)2, inserted "within 30 calendar days of the publication of the proposed rulemaking activity in the N.J.R." and substituted "a specific request" for "the need" and "request" for "need"; in the introductory paragraph of (e)2i, substituted "request" for "need"; and in (e)2i(1), inserted "legally committed or confined" and "who are".

Amended by R.2011 d.022, effective January 18, 2011.

See: 42 N.J.R. 2194(a), 43 N.J.R. 188(a).

Added (f).

10A:1-1.7 Calendar of Departmental rule activity

(a) A quarterly calendar of anticipated Departmental proposed rulemaking activities for the next six months may be available and published in the first New Jersey Register (N.J.R.) in the months of January, April, July and October.

1. When the Department of Corrections provides a 60 day comment period as indicated in the N.J.R. publication of a notice of a rule proposal, the calendar notice and N.J.R. publication of a calendar notice shall not be required.

2. When the Department of Corrections publishes a calendar in the N.J.R., access to the calendar may be obtained from:

i. The N.J.R. in issues from the months listed in (a) above;

ii. The official website of the Department of Corrections at www.state.nj.us/corrections; and

iii. By contacting the Department in accordance with N.J.A.C. 10A:1-1.3.

3. When the Department of Corrections publishes a calendar in the N.J.R., the calendar shall be:

i. Provided to the news media maintaining a press office in the New Jersey State House Complex; and

ii. Distributed to persons or groups likely to be affected by or interested in the calendar of anticipated Departmental proposed rulemaking activities such as, but not limited to, New Jersey State Law Libraries, the New Jersey State Parole Board, the American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey, the New Jersey Association of Corrections, Departmental administrative staff, the custody staff bargaining unit, inmate advocacy groups, correctional facility Inmate Liaison Committees, correctional facility law libraries, and individuals or entities who have requested (see N.J.A.C. 10A:1-1.3) to be

advised of the calendar of anticipated Departmental proposed rulemaking activities.

4. The reimbursement for costs of copying the anticipated Department of Corrections calendar of proposed rulemaking activities for the next six months when published in an issue of the N.J.R. shall be in accordance with N.J.A.C. 10A:1-1.4, Reimbursement for costs of copying.

New Rule, R.2001 d.455, effective December 3, 2001.

See: 33 N.J.R. 2941(a), 33 N.J.R. 4106(a).

Amended by R.2010 d.057, effective April 19, 2010.

See: 41 N.J.R. 4395(a), 42 N.J.R. 792(b).

In the introductory paragraph of (a), inserted "Register".

SUBCHAPTER 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS

10A:1-2.1 Scope

(a) Unless otherwise stated, N.J.A.C. 10A:1 through 10A:30 shall be applicable to State correctional facilities under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections.

(b) Unless otherwise stated, N.J.A.C. 10A:31 through 10A:34 shall be applicable to municipal and county correctional facilities within the State of New Jersey.

(c) Pursuant to the Sexually Violent Predator Act (N.J.S.A. 30:4-27.24 et seq.), the Department of Corrections shall be responsible for the operation of any Special Treatment Unit designated for the custody, care, control and treatment of sexually violent predators; therefore, when deemed necessary by the Commissioner of the Department of Corrections or designee, operational, custodial, security and medical care rules set forth within N.J.A.C. 10A:1 through 10A:30 shall be applicable to Special Treatment Units. Unless otherwise stated, N.J.A.C. 10A:35 shall be applicable to Special Treatment Units under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections.

Amended by R.2010 d.057, effective April 19, 2010.

See: 41 N.J.R. 4395(a), 42 N.J.R. 792(b).

Added (c).

10A:1-2.2 Definitions

The following words and terms, when used in N.J.A.C. 10A:1 through 10A:30, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Administrative Segregation" shall mean removal of an inmate from the general population to a long-term close custody unit because of one or more disciplinary infractions or other administrative considerations.

"Administrator" means an administrator or a superintendent who serves as the chief executive officer of any State correctional facility within the New Jersey Department of Corrections.

"A.D.T.C." means the Adult Diagnostic and Treatment Center which is the correctional facility designated to house persons who have been sentenced pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:47-1 et seq. and 2A:164-1 et seq.

"Adult county correctional facility" means any place, under the jurisdiction of a county, where adult persons convicted or accused of crimes are confined.

"Assistant Commissioner" means the chief executive officer of a Division within the Department of Corrections.

"Associate Administrator" means an assistant administrator or an assistant superintendent who is the ranking assistant to the Administrator of any State correctional facility within the New Jersey Department of Corrections.

"Asterisk offense" means a prohibited act preceded by a number and an asterisk that is considered the most serious and results in the most severe sanction(s).

"Body cavity search" means the visual inspection or manual search of a person's anal or vaginal cavity.

"Business day(s)" means any single or consecutive days during which most businesses operate, Monday through Friday, excluding weekends or legal holidays.

"Calendar day(s)" means any single day or consecutive days, January 1 through December 31.

"Canine search" means a search conducted by a canine team consisting of a handler(s) and a dog(s) specially trained to discover and indicate to the handler(s) the presence of various substances, objects and/or materials.

"Central Communications Unit" means the centralized communication center within the Department of Corrections which coordinates certain functions of the Department of Corrections on a 24 hours per day, seven days per week basis.

"Central Control" means the unit which coordinates the security and communication functions within a correctional facility.

"Central Medical/Transportation Unit" means the centralized unit which provides transportation for inmates within the Department of Corrections.

"Central Reception and Assignment Facility (CRAF)" means the facility of the New Jersey Department of Corrections for inmate reception and correctional facility assignments.

"Chemical agent" means an aerosol spray which may be used to gain control of individuals who resist arrest or for the purpose of self-defense against an attack.

"Civil union" means the legally recognized union of two eligible individuals of the same sex established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 37:1-36. Parties to a civil union shall receive the

budsman, Department of Corrections"; and in definition "Non-permissible property" inserted "any item addressed to or received by an inmate from or someone or someplace that is not an authorized source of sale," deleted "or" following "through the mail" and substituted "an authorized" for "a".

Amended by R.2008 d.266, effective September 2, 2008.

See: 40 N.J.R. 2647(a), 40 N.J.R. 5040(a).

Added definition "Office of Community Programs".

Amended by R.2009 d.86, effective March 16, 2009.

See: 40 N.J.R. 6732(a), 41 N.J.R. 1250(a).

In paragraph 2 of definition "Constant observation", inserted "uninterrupted surveillance by one staff member of up to four inmates".

Amended by R.2009 d.272, effective September 8, 2009.

See: 41 N.J.R. 2202(a), 41 N.J.R. 3301(b).

Added definition "Responsible health authority".

In definition "Shift Commander", substituted "a supervisory rank who has been designated by the Administrator or designee as being" for "the rank of Sergeant or higher".

Amended by R.2009 d.320, effective October 19, 2009.

See: 41 N.J.R. 2607(a), 41 N.J.R. 3936(a).

Amended by R.2010 d.054, effective April 5, 2010.

See: 41 N.J.R. 4663(a), 42 N.J.R. 721(a).

Added definition "Prehearing Protective Custody".

Amended by R.2010 d.057, effective April 19, 2010.

See: 41 N.J.R. 4395(a), 42 N.J.R. 792(b).

In definition "Canine search", inserted ", objects".

Administrative change.

See: 43 N.J.R. 1344(a).

Amended by R.2011 d.277, effective November 7, 2011.

See: 43 N.J.R. 1562(a), 43 N.J.R. 3024(a).

Rewrote definition "Security threat group".

Amended by R.2013 d.006, effective January 7, 2013.

See: 44 N.J.R. 957(a), 45 N.J.R. 34(b).

Added definitions "Experimentation" and "Research".

Case Notes

Regulation which classifies inmates who do not have any funds in their account and who cannot work, but are able to receive funds from outside sources as "nonindigent," thus requiring them to use funds from outside sources for payment of legal photocopying and medical care, did not violate equal protection clause. *Robinson v. Fauver*, D.N.J.1996, 932 F.Supp. 639.

In an inmate's appeal of disciplinary action arising from a fight he was involved in, the appellate court rejected the Department of Corrections' blanket policy of keeping confidential all security camera videotapes in order to preclude inmates from learning camera angles, locations, or blind spots, and directed the Department to develop a record on remand regarding the need for confidentiality of the particular videotape. *Robles v. New Jersey Dept. of Corrections*, 388 N.J. Super. 516, 909 A.2d 755, 2006 N.J. Super. LEXIS 295 (App.Div. 2006).

10A:1-2.3 Chief Executive Officer

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:1B-1 et seq., the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Corrections is the Commissioner of Corrections.

10A:1-2.4 Rulemaking, policy and procedure making and exemption authority

(a) The Commissioner, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 30:1B-1 et seq., is authorized to formulate, adopt, issue, promulgate, relax and exempt rules and regulations for the administration of correctional facilities, community programs and operational units within the Department of Corrections.

(b) The Commissioner is authorized to determine all matters of policy and procedure in order to regulate the opera-

tional issues associated with the administration of correctional facilities, community programs and operational units and to formulate, modify, relax, and exempt such policies, procedures and regulations when necessary, so that same can function safely and effectively within the Department of Corrections.

(c) The Commissioner may exempt a correctional facility, community program or operational unit from adherence to a rule or may relax certain requirements of a rule for good cause shown in a particular situation or in instances when strict compliance with a rule or all of its requirements would result in:

1. An undue hardship, unfairness or injustice;
2. An inability to meet a therapeutic, rehabilitative or medical need;
3. A security risk or imminent peril to the overall management, safe or orderly operation of a correctional facility, community program or operational unit;
4. An inability to utilize existing technology or apply technological innovations in order to meet penological objectives;
5. An inability to meet an operational need to ensure management effectiveness and efficiency; or
6. An inability to reasonably meet a time period requirement.

Amended by R.1992 d.269, effective July 6, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 1465(a), 24 N.J.R. 2451(c).

Revised (c).

Amended by R.2003 d.176, effective May 5, 2003.

See: 35 N.J.R. 331(a), 35 N.J.R. 1898(a).

Rewrote (c).

Amended by R.2010 d.057, effective April 19, 2010.

See: 41 N.J.R. 4395(a), 42 N.J.R. 792(b).

Section was "Rulemaking and exemption authority". In (a), substituted a comma for "and" preceding "promulgate" and inserted ", relax and exempt"; rewrote (b); in the introductory paragraph of (c), inserted "may relax" and "for good cause shown in a particular situation or"; in (c)1, inserted ", unfairness or injustice"; in (c)2, deleted "or" at the end; in (c)3, inserted "or imminent peril" and substituted a semicolon for a period at the end; and added (c)4 and (c)5.

Amended by R.2011 d.022, effective January 18, 2011.

See: 42 N.J.R. 2194(a), 43 N.J.R. 188(a).

In (c)4, deleted "or" from the end; added new (c)5; and recodified former (c)5 as (c)6.

10A:1-2.5 Expiration of rule exemptions

(a) All rule exemptions shall expire two years from the date of approval by the Commissioner.

(b) A rule exemption may be terminated prior to its expiration date when:

1. The special circumstances making the rule exemption necessary no longer exist; or
2. The Commissioner no longer approves the rule exemption.

(c) A rule exemption may be extended beyond its expiration date when:

1. The Administrator or Unit Supervisor reapplies for the rule exemption; and
2. The approval of the Commissioner is given for an extension of the rule exemption.

(d) A correctional facility, community program or operational unit shall return to compliance with the New Jersey Administrative Code when rule exemptions terminate or expire.

Amended by R.2003 d.176, effective May 5, 2003.

See: 35 N.J.R. 331(a), 35 N.J.R. 1898(a).

In (c)1, substituted "Administrator" for "Superintendent".

10A:1-2.6 Effective dates of adopted and exempted rules

(a) Unless otherwise noted in the New Jersey Register, an adopted rule is effective on the date of its publication in the New Jersey Register.

(b) The effective date of a rule exemption shall be the date of the Commissioner's signature on Form 911 Request for Rule Exemption.

10A:1-2.7 Procedure for requesting rule exemptions

(a) Requests for rule exemptions may be submitted by staff or committees to the Administrator for review.

(b) Requests for rule exemptions may be submitted by inmates or inmate groups to the Institutional Classification Committee (I.C.C.) for review. The I.C.C. shall review and submit inmate requests for rule exemptions to the Administrator along with recommendations for approval or disapproval. Such requests for rule exemptions must:

1. Be in writing;
2. Be legible and intelligible;
3. Contain the full name and address of the inmate or inmate group;
4. Contain the N.J.A.C. 10A citation of the rule for which the exemption is made; and
5. Include a clear and concise statement summarizing the substance of the rule exemption, why the suggestion is being requested and a summary of reasons for the exemption.

(c) Requests for rule exemptions may be submitted by staff members, individually or as a group, utilizing and submitting Form 911 to the community program supervisor or operational unit supervisor for review.

(d) The Administrator, community program supervisor or operational unit supervisor shall review and determine, based on the criteria in N.J.A.C. 10A:1-2.4(c), whether to submit

requests for rule exemptions to the appropriate Assistant Commissioner and the Commissioner for consideration.

(e) If the Administrator, community program supervisor or operational unit supervisor approves a request for rule exemption, the designated sections of Form 911 Request for Rule Exemption shall be completed in duplicate, signed and submitted to the appropriate Assistant Commissioner.

(f) The Assistant Commissioner shall review Form 911 Request for Rule Exemption and determine whether to approve or disapprove the request, based on the criteria in N.J.A.C. 10A:1-2.4(c). If the Assistant Commissioner approves the request, the designated section of Form 911 shall be signed, dated and submitted to the Commissioner for review. If the Assistant Commissioner disapproves the request, the designated section of Form 911 shall be signed, dated and returned to the correctional facility Administrator, the community program supervisor or operational unit supervisor.

(g) The Commissioner shall review Form 911 Request for Rule Exemption, submitted by an Assistant Commissioner and determine whether to authorize a rule exemption, based on the criteria in N.J.A.C. 10A:1-2.4(c). The Commissioner shall approve or disapprove a rule exemption by signing and dating the designated section on Form 911 and returning it to the Assistant Commissioner.

(h) The Assistant Commissioner shall be responsible for notifying the Administrator, the community program supervisor or operational unit supervisor of the Commissioner's approval or disapproval of requests for rule exemptions.

Amended by R.1992 d.269, effective July 6, 1992.

See: 24 N.J.R. 1465(a), 24 N.J.R. 2451(c).

Revised (d)-(h).

Administrative Correction in (e) and (f).

See: 24 N.J.R. 4390(a).

Administrative Change.

See: 25 N.J.R. 4105(a).

Amended by R.2003 d.176, effective May 5, 2003.

See: 35 N.J.R. 331(a), 35 N.J.R. 1898(a).

Substituted "Administrator" for "Superintendent" throughout.

Amended by R.2010 d.057, effective April 19, 2010.

See: 41 N.J.R. 4395(a), 42 N.J.R. 792(b).

In the introductory paragraph of (b), inserted the last sentence; added (b)1 through (b)5; and in (c), inserted "utilizing and submitting Form 911".

10A:1-2.8 Forms

(a) The following form related to Administration, Organization and Management is available by accessing the Department of Corrections computer network (DOCNet). Interested individuals who do not have access to DOCNet may obtain copies of this form by contacting the Administrative Rules Unit, New Jersey Department of Corrections:

1. 911 Request for Rule Exemption.

(b) The following form related to inventory of inmate personal property is printed by the Bureau of State Use

Industries—DEPTCOR and each facility shall purchase a supply of this form by contacting DEPTCOR:

1. IIS-1M Inmate Inventory Sheet.

(c) The following form related to Disability Discrimination Grievance is available at N.J.A.C. 10A:1-3.7 or can be obtained by contacting the ADA Coordinator, New Jersey Department of Corrections:

1. Americans with Disabilities Act Grievance Form 100.

Administrative change.

See: 35 N.J.R. 1137(a).

Amended by R.2003 d.176, effective May 5, 2003.

See: 35 N.J.R. 331(a), 35 N.J.R. 1898(a).

In (c), substituted "is available at N.J.A.C. 10A:1-3.7 or can" for "shall" following "Disability Discrimination Grievance" in the introductory paragraph.

Administrative change.

See: 36 N.J.R. 1779(a).

Amended by R.2006 d.419, effective December 4, 2006.

See: 38 N.J.R. 3226(a), 38 N.J.R. 5161(a).

In the introductory paragraph of (a), deleted "shall be reproduced from originals that" preceding "are available" and inserted "by accessing the Department of Corrections computer network (DOCNet). Interested individuals who do not have access to DOCNet may obtain copies of forms".