

TITLE 10A
CORRECTIONS

CHAPTER 1

**ADMINISTRATION, ORGANIZATION
AND MANAGEMENT**

Authority

N.J.S.A. 2C:39-1, 30:1B-6, 30:1B-10, 30:4-123.47(c) and 52:27EE-26; the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. §§12101 et seq.; and the Federal Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA), 42 U.S.C. §§15601 et seq.

Source and Effective Date

R.2008 d.190, effective June 17, 2008.
See: 40 N.J.R. 1736(b), 40 N.J.R. 4323(a).

Chapter Expiration Date

Chapter 1, Administration, Organization and Management, expires on June 17, 2013.

Subchapter 3, Disability Discrimination Grievance Procedure, is exempt from expiration pursuant to 28 C.F.R. Part 35.

Chapter Historical Note

Chapter 1, Administration, Organization and Management, was adopted as R.1987 d.282, effective July 6, 1987. See: 19 N.J.R. 620(a), 19 N.J.R. 1214(a).

Subchapter 2, General Provisions, was adopted as R.1988 d.240, effective June 6, 1988. See: 20 N.J.R. 493(a), 20 N.J.R. 1222(c).

Subchapters 3 through 10, (Reserved), and Subchapter 11, Personal Property of Inmates, were adopted as R.1988 d.306, effective July 5, 1988. See: 20 N.J.R. 494(a), 20 N.J.R. 1559(b).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Chapter 1, Administration, Organization and Management, was readopted as R.1992 d.269, effective June 1, 1992. See: 24 N.J.R. 1465(a), 24 N.J.R. 2451(c).

Subchapter 3, Disability Discrimination Grievance Procedure, was adopted as R.1993 d.617, effective December 6, 1993. See: 25 N.J.R. 1326(b), 25 N.J.R. 5474(a).

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), Subchapter 1, Operation and Procedures of the Department of Corrections; Subchapter 2, General Procedures; Subchapters 4 through 9, (Reserved); Subchapter 10, Research; and Subchapter 11, Personal Property of Inmates, expired on June 1, 1997.

Subchapter 1, Operation and Procedures of the Department of Corrections; Subchapter 2, General Procedures; Subchapters 4 through 9, (Reserved); Subchapter 10, Research; and Subchapter 11, Personal Property of Inmates, were adopted as R.1997 d.527, effective December 15, 1997. See: 29 N.J.R. 4231(a), 29 N.J.R. 5296(a).

Chapter 1, Administration, Organization and Management, was readopted as R.2003 d.176, effective April 9, 2003. See: 35 N.J.R. 331(a), 35 N.J.R. 1898(a).

Subchapter 4, Inmate Remedy System, was adopted as new rules by R.2008 d.171, effective June 16, 2008. See: 39 N.J.R. 2188(a), 40 N.J.R. 3718(d).

Chapter 1, Administration, Organization and Management, was readopted as R.2008 d.190, effective June 17, 2008. See: Source and Effective Date. See, also, section annotations.

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SUBCHAPTER 1. OPERATION, PROCEDURES AND RULEMAKING ACTIVITY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

10A:1-1.1 Functions of the agency

(a) The Department of Corrections (DOC), created by statute in 1976, is a principal Department in the Executive Branch of New Jersey State Government (see N.J.S.A. 30:1B-2). The functions of the DOC are to:

1. Protect the public and provide for the custody, care, discipline, training and treatment of persons committed to State correctional facilities;
2. Supervise and assist in the treatment and training of persons in local correctional and detention facilities, so that such persons may be prepared for release and reintegration into the community;
3. Cooperate with other law enforcement agencies of the State to encourage a more unified system of criminal justice.
4. Provide maximum security confinement for offenders whose demonstrated propensity to acts of violence requires that these offenders be separated from the community;
5. Develop alternatives to conventional incarceration for offenders who can be dealt with more effectively in less restrictive community based facilities and programs;
6. Provide an environment for incarcerated persons which encourages rehabilitation and reintegration into the community; and
7. Protect the incarcerated offender from victimization within the correctional facilities of the DOC.

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

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

In (a)I, deleted "or released on parole" following "committed to State correctional facilities".

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

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

In the introductory paragraph of (a) and in (a)7, substituted "DOC" for "D.O.C." throughout; and in the introductory paragraph of (a), inserted "(see N.J.S.A. 30:1B-2)".

Case Notes

Department of Corrections was authorized to discipline a prisoner, who tested positive for cocaine and opiates upon his return to a State prison after escaping from a halfway house, for violating the Department's regulation prohibiting the use of drugs; under N.J.S.A. 30:1B-3 and N.J.S.A. 30:4-91.3, the Commissioner of Corrections maintains authority over adult offenders committed to State correctional institutions, even at times when they are physically outside prison walls. *Ries v. Dep't of Corr.*, 396 N.J. Super. 235, 933 A.2d 638, 2007 N.J. Super. LEXIS 328 (App.Div. 2007).

10A:1-1.2 Procedure to petition for rulemaking

(a) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-4(f), an interested person may petition for the promulgation of a new rule, or amendment or repeal of any existing rule of the Department of Corrections. A petition shall:

1. Be in writing;
2. Be legible and intelligible; and
3. Be signed by the petitioner.

(b) Each petition shall contain the following information:

1. The full name and address of the petitioner;
2. Citation of the rule for which the petition is made, using N.J.A.C. references, where applicable;
3. A clear and concise statement summarizing the substance of the rule sought or change to be suggested that may include the text of the suggested new rule or amended rule;
4. A specific statement explaining why the suggestion is being offered and summary of reasons therefor; and
5. A citation of statutory authority under which the Department of Correction is authorized to act.

(c) The petition shall be sent to the Supervisor, Administrative Rules Unit, Office of the Commissioner, Department of Corrections, Cubberly Building, PO Box 863, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0863.

(d) A document submitted as a petition for rulemaking shall be reviewed by the Commissioner or designee. The document shall be deemed to be a petition for rulemaking based upon, but not limited to, substantial compliance with (a) through (c) above and the following guidelines, as applicable to the suggested new rule, amended rule or repealed rule (see definition of an "administrative rule" at N.J.S.A. 52:14B-2(e)):

1. The Department has the legal authority to promulgate the suggested rule;

2. The suggested rule has general Departmental application to all similarly situated persons or is intended to have wide, uniform coverage that encompasses a large segment of the regulated population (rather than to a particular circumstance related to a specific occurrence or incident, or to a personal situation, case or litigation proceeding);

3. The suggested rule has continuing effect and applies to future cases only;

4. The suggested rule implements or interprets a law or a general Departmental policy, or describes the function, procedure or practice requirements of a law or a general Departmental policy (rather than applying to an internal management procedure);

5. The suggested rule falls within the purview of the Department of Corrections and does not relate to an intra-agency or inter-agency statement or issue; or

6. The suggested rule falls outside the scope of an inmate's issue, concern, complaint or problem, which is related to a condition of confinement in or an internal management procedure of a correctional facility or unit that must be processed pursuant to N.J.A.C. 10A:1-4, Inmate Remedy System.

(e) When the Commissioner or designee deems the document submitted to be a petition for rulemaking that substantially complies with the provisions of this section, the Department of Corrections shall file for publication with the Office of Administrative Law a notice of receipt of petition for rulemaking in the New Jersey Register pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:30-4.1(c). A document submitted as a petition for rulemaking that does not substantially comply with the provisions of this section shall not be deemed a petition that requires further agency action.

(f) No later than 60 calendar days following receipt of an accepted petition, the Department of Corrections shall mail to the petitioner and file for publication in the New Jersey Register, a notice of action on the petition that shall contain the information described by (b) above. The notice of action shall include either:

1. A statement denying the petition and including a written statement of the reason(s);

2. A notice granting the petition and including a statement that the Department shall initiate a rulemaking proceeding within 90 calendar days of granting the petition; or

3. A statement that the matter is being referred for further deliberations, the nature of which shall be specified and which shall be concluded within 90 calendar days of referring the matter for further deliberations.

(g) Upon conclusion of further deliberations, as established in (f)3 above, the Department shall mail to the petitioner and file for publication in the New Jersey Register another notice of action on the petition, which shall either deny the petition and include a statement of the reason(s), or grant the petition

and include a statement that the Department shall initiate rulemaking proceedings within 90 calendar days of granting the petition.

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)-(d).

Administrative Correction in (d) and (e).

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

Administrative Change.

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

Amended by R.2001 d.220, effective July 2, 2001.

See: 33 N.J.R. 1288(a), 33 N.J.R. 2290(a).

Rewrote (c); in (d), inserted “, or designee,” preceding “accepts the petition”, substituted references to (a), (b) and (c) for references to (a) and (b), and amended the N.J.A.C. reference; rewrote (e); added (f).

Administrative change.

See: 36 N.J.R. 1779(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 the introductory paragraph of (a), substituted “Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-4(f), an” for “An”, deleted “apply to” following “person may” and inserted “of a new rule, or” and “existing”; in (b)2, substituted “petition” for “proposal”; in (b)3, inserted “that may include the text of the suggested new rule or amended rule”; added new (d); recodified former (d) through (f) as (e) through (g); rewrote (e); in the introductory paragraph of (f), inserted “calendar” and a comma following “Register”, and substituted “that” for “which”; in (f)2 and (f)3, inserted “calendar”; and in (g), substituted “(f)3” for “(e)3” and “reason(s)” for “reasons(s)”, inserted a comma following the first occurrence of “petition” and inserted “calendar”.

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

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

In (d)2, inserted “to all similarly situated persons”; in (d)3, substituted “to future cases” for “prospectively”; in (d)5, substituted “intra-agency” for “intraagency”, “inter-agency” for “interagency”, and “; or” for a period at the end; and added (d)6.

10A:1-1.3 Public and inmate information requests

(a) Members of the public, other than inmates, may obtain general information from the Department of Corrections by writing to the Department of Corrections, Office of Public Information at PO Box 863, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0863, by accessing the official Department of Corrections website at www.state.nj.us/corrections, or by making a telephone call to (609) 292-9340.

(b) Inmates requesting information or services may contact the Corrections Ombudsperson, Division of Citizen Relations, Department of the Public Advocate by mail at PO Box 855, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0855 or by making a toll-free call within a correctional facility, using a pin number that is assigned by the Department of Corrections. This toll-free number is (555) 555-5555. A toll call can also be made to (609) 292-8020.

(c) Requests for government records pursuant to the Open Public Records Act at N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. shall be handled in accordance with N.J.A.C. 10A:22.

(d) Pursuant to the Identity Theft Prevention Act at N.J.S.A. 56:11-44 et seq. and related definitions at N.J.S.A. 56:8-161; and in order to prevent identity theft, Departmental staff shall be responsible for safeguarding “personal information” as this term is defined in N.J.A.C. 10A:1-2.2 and for complying with related rules at N.J.A.C. 10A:22-1.5.

Amended by R.1993 d.635, effective December 6, 1993.
 See: 25 N.J.R. 4552(a), 25 N.J.R. 5475(a).
 Amended by R.2001 d.455, effective December 3, 2001.
 See: 33 N.J.R. 2941(a), 33 N.J.R. 4106(a).

In (a), inserted "by assessing the official Department of Corrections website at www.state.nj.us/corrections," following "08625-0863".
 Amended by R.2003 d.176, effective May 5, 2003.

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

In (a), substituted "accessing" for "assessing" preceding "the official Department of Corrections website"; added (c).

Amended by R.2007 d.64, effective February 20, 2007.

See: 38 N.J.R. 4622(b), 39 N.J.R. 652(b).

Added (d).

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

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

Rewrote (b).

10A:1-1.4 Reimbursement for costs of copying

(a) Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5, correctional facilities and other administrative units within the Department of Corrections may charge the following fees for copying records deemed to be public:

\$0.05 per letter size page or smaller, and \$0.07 per legal size page or larger.

(b) Government agencies are exempt from cost of copying of documents.

(c) The copying fees for documents or records other than records deemed to be public shall also be based on the fee schedule in (a) above.

(d) When or if fees for the copying of public records change in accordance with N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5, these changes shall be published as a notice of administrative change in the New Jersey Register.

New Rule, R.1993 d.635, effective December 6, 1993.

See: 25 N.J.R. 4552(a), 25 N.J.R. 5475(a).

Administrative change.

See: 37 N.J.R. 80(b).

Administrative change.

See: 42 N.J.R. 2806(b).

10A:1-1.5 Rulemaking activity

(a) Department of Corrections rules are promulgated pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq., and N.J.A.C. 1:30.

(b) The New Jersey Administrative Code (N.J.A.C.) is the official publication of the Office of Administrative Law and contains all effective rules adopted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act by agencies of the State of New Jersey. The rules of the Department of Corrections are established within N.J.A.C. Title 10A, Corrections.

(c) The public may make submissions or requests regarding the promulgation, amendment and repeal of any Departmental rules in accordance with N.J.A.C. 10A:1-1.2, Procedure to petition for rulemaking.

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

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

10A:1-1.6 Notice of a proposed rule and opportunity to be heard

(a) A notice of a proposed rule may consist of:

1. A proposed new rule;
2. A proposed amendment to modify, alter or revise an existing rule;
3. A proposed repeal of a rule; or
4. A proposed readoption of a rule.

(b) The Department of Corrections provides the following four types of publicity for a notice of a rule proposal:

1. Publication in the New Jersey Register (N.J.R.), a semi-monthly official publication of the Office of Administrative Law which contains all Departmental rule proposals and adoptions;

2. Distribution of the notice or a statement of the substance of the proposed rulemaking activity to the news media maintaining a press office in the New Jersey State House Complex;

3. Posting of the notice or a statement of the substance of the proposed rulemaking activity on the official website of the New Jersey Department of Corrections at www.state.nj.us/corrections; and

4. Distribution of the notice or a statement of the substance of the proposed rulemaking activity mailed to persons or organizations likely to be affected by or interested in the intended action 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 request (see N.J.A.C. 10A:1-1.3) to be advised of the Department's proposed rulemaking activities.

(c) Notice of a rule proposal shall include a designated public comment period and specific information regarding to whom comments may be submitted.

1. Comments must be submitted to the individual at the address designated within the notice of a rule proposal in order to be considered by the Department;

2. Comments submitted for a notice of a rule proposal must fall within the scope of the subject matter of the rule proposal. Comments that do not fall within the scope shall be summarized in the notice of adoption along with a statement that the comment does not fall within the scope of the subject matter of the notice of a rule proposal; and

“Institutional Classification Committee (I.C.C.)” means the committee of correctional facility staff members responsible for monitoring an inmate’s progress and assigning the inmate to appropriate programs or activities. The I.C.C. may consist of subcommittees as deemed necessary.

“Institutional Classification Reception Committee (I.C.R.C.)” means the committee of staff members responsible for determining the initial custody status and correctional facility assignments of male inmates; the custody status and correctional facility assignments of male parole violators, escapees and Interstate Corrections Compact transferees; and for recommending inmates at the Central Reception and Assignment Facility (CRAF) who are considered appropriate for Protective Custody.

“Internal Management Procedures” means procedures that are issued by the correctional facility/unit Administrator or supervisor or designee to provide specific operating procedures for that particular correctional facility/unit.

“Keep separate status” means the intentional assignment of certain inmates to different correctional facilities or different units within a correctional facility, so as to maintain a separation between these inmates for administrative reasons to ensure the safe, secure and orderly operation of the correctional facility and/or in order to prevent the possibility of retaliation because of a previous act or occurrence.

“Lawfully confined” means custodial confinement in a municipal detention facility, county correctional facility or a Department of Corrections facility.

“Legal correspondence” means the exchange of letters between an inmate and:

1. An attorney of this State or any other state when properly identified as such on the outside of the envelope;
2. Offices of the Federal or State Public Defender;
3. The Office of the Attorney General;
4. Federal, State, county and municipal courts;
5. Federal, State, county and municipal court judges;
6. Offices of Legal Services;
7. Legal assistance clinics managed by accredited law schools of this or any other state;
8. The Administrative Office of the Courts;
9. Offices of the Federal, State or county Prosecutor;
10. A foreign consul;
11. The Bureau of Risk Management, New Jersey Department of the Treasury;
12. The Special Investigations Division, Department of Corrections;
13. The Corrections Ombudsperson, Division of Citizen Relations, Department of the Public Advocate; and

14. The Office of Administrative Law.

“Legal material” means papers or documents that are required to be filed with the court and served upon opposing parties. Legal material includes:

1. Orders required by their terms to be served;
2. Written notices;
3. Written motions;
4. Demands, or answers to demands which the inmate is required to serve, such as, for the production of documents for interrogatories;
5. Offers of judgment;
6. Designations of records on appeal;
7. Briefs;
8. Petitions;
9. Summons; and
10. Complaints.

“Mechanical restraints” means restraining devices such as, but not limited to, handcuffs, flex cuffs, leg irons, and belly chains.

“News media representative” means an individual with valid press credentials who provides any means of communication to the public.

“Non-asterisk offense” means a prohibited act that is considered less serious and results in a less severe sanction.

“Non-contact visit” means a visit between an inmate and a visitor where there is a barrier, such as, but not limited to, a window or wall between the inmate and the visitor.

“Non-deadly force” means force which is not likely to cause death or serious bodily harm.

“Non-permissible property” means property that is not identified, or exceeds the permitted amount indicated on a list of permissible property. Examples of non-permissible property include, but are not limited to, any item addressed to or received by an inmate from or someone or someplace that is not an authorized source of sale, an unauthorized item received by an inmate through the mail from an authorized source of sale, an item retained by the inmate who receives notice that such item has been deleted from the permissible property list, or an item the inmate has in his or her possession that was permitted in a certain unit or facility that is not permitted in another unit or facility.

“Objective classification” means the standardized evaluation and custody assignment score of an inmate based on the following criteria:

1. Severity of current offense;
2. Prior assaultive offense history;
3. Escape history;

4. History of correctional facility violence;
5. Prior felony convictions (initial only);
6. Education (initial only);
7. Employment (initial only);
8. Age;
9. Number of disciplinary reports (reclassification only);
10. Most severe disciplinary infraction received (reclassification only);
11. Program participation (reclassification only); and
12. System overrides.

“Office of Community Programs” means the office within the Department of Corrections, Division of Programs and Community Services, responsible for overseeing Residential Community Release Programs, such as Assessment and Treatment Centers, halfway houses, and Substance Use Disorder Treatment Programs, which provide rehabilitative and treatment services for inmates prior to their release.

“On-the-spot correction” means the immediate imposition of a sanction upon an inmate for the violation of a minor prohibited act.

“Passive canine search” means a search conducted by a canine team consisting of a handler(s) and a dog(s) specially trained to discover and passively indicate to the handler(s) the presence of various substances and/or materials.

“Pat search” means a thorough search of a fully-clothed inmate, including the clothing and personal property in the inmate’s possession.

“Personal information” means an individual’s first name or first initial and last name that is linked with any one or more of the following data elements:

1. Social Security number;
2. Driver’s license number or State identification card number; or
3. Account number or credit or debit card number, in combination with any required security code, access code or password that would permit access to an individual’s financial account.

Dissociated data that, if linked, would constitute personal information is personal information if the means to link the dissociated data were accessed in connection with access to the dissociated data. Personal information shall not include publicly available information that is lawfully made available to the general public from Federal, state or local government records, or widely distributed media (see N.J.S.A. 56:8-161).

“Prehearing detention” means removal of an inmate from the general population pending an investigation and a hearing *into an alleged violation* of a prohibited act.

“Prehearing Protective Custody” means the removal of an inmate from the general population by confinement to the inmate’s cell or placement into a Close Custody Unit pending an investigation and a hearing into the need for Protective Custody placement.

“Prison Complex” means state correctional facilities designated to house inmates serving prison sentences.

“Probable cause” means reasonable ground(s) of suspicion, supported by circumstances sufficiently strong to warrant a cautious person to believe that criminal activity is taking place.

“Prohibited act” means conduct in violation of rules and regulations which will result in the imposition of sanctions.

“Protective custody” means confinement to a secure unit designated to restrict or limit an inmate’s activities and contacts with others, in order to provide protection to the inmate from injury or harm actually threatened, or reasonably believed to exist based on events, investigative reports, reports from an informant(s) or other reliable source(s) of information.

“Reasonable suspicion” means a belief that an action is necessary based upon specific and articulable facts that, taken together with rational inferences from those facts, reasonably support a conclusion.

“Regional institution” means the correctional facility designated to provide support services to a residential community program, such as, but not limited to, medical, security, administration, disciplinary returns and parole hearing scheduling.

“Relative” means:

1. Parent;
2. Legal guardian;
3. Partner in a civil union couple;
4. Spouse;
5. Domestic partner;
6. Child; or
7. Sibling.

“Responsible health authority” means a designated person within a correctional facility who shall be a physician or health administrator, such as, but not limited to, an advanced practice nurse responsible for arranging health services to all inmates. When this authority is other than a physician, medical/clinical judgments rest with a designated licensed responsible physician.

“Scanning/testing device” means a mechanical and/or electronic instrument used to identify or to detect certain substances and materials.

“Scanning/testing device operator” means an individual specially trained and authorized by the Department to operate a scanning/testing device.

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".

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 Correction's 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 operational 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".