

PUBLIC CORRECTIONAL POLICY ON ADULT/JUVENILE OFFENDER ACCESS TO TELEPHONES

Date Jan. 24, 2001; Rev. Feb. 1, 2006

Policy Statement:

Recognizing that there is no constitutional right for adult/juvenile offenders to have access to telephones, nonetheless consistent with the requirements of sound correctional management, adult/juvenile offenders should have access to a range of reasonably priced telecommunications services. Correctional agencies should ensure that:

- A. Contracts involving telecommunications services for adult/juvenile offenders comply with all applicable state and federal regulations;
- B. Contracts are based on rates and surcharges that are commensurate with those charged to the general public for like services. Any deviation from ordinary consumer rates should reflect actual costs associated with the provision of services in a correctional setting; and
- C. Contracts for adult/juvenile offender telecommunications services provide the broadest range of calling options determined to be consistent with the requirements of sound correctional management.

This Public Correctional Policy was unanimously ratified by the American Correctional Association Delegate Assembly at the Winter Conference in Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 24, 2001. It was reviewed and amended at the Winter Conference in Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 1, 2006.

ACA STANDARD GOVERNING CORRECTIONAL TELEPHONE SERVICES
August 2002

Written policy, procedure and practice ensure that inmates/juvenile offenders have access to reasonably priced telephone services. Correctional agencies should ensure that:

- A. Contracts involving telephone services for inmates/juvenile offenders comply with all applicable state and federal regulations;
- B. Contracts are based on rates and surcharges that are commensurate with those charged to the general public for like services. Any deviation from ordinary consumer rates should reflect actual costs associated with the provision of services in a correctional setting; and
- C. Contracts for inmate/juvenile offender telephone services provide the broadest range of calling options determined by the agency administrator to be consistent with the requirements of sound correctional management.

COMMENT

When procuring and renewing telephone services, correctional officials should inquire into the reasons for proposed deviations from standard charges and seek the best possible rates

for the broadest possible range of calling options determined to be consistent with sound correctional management.

[This standard was incorporated into the following ACA Manuals: *Standards for Adult Correctional Institutions, third edition*; *Standards for Adult Local Detention Facilities, third edition*; *Standards for Adult Community Residential Facilities, fourth edition*; *Standards for Adult Correctional Boot Camp Programs, first edition*; *Standards for Juvenile Community Residential Facilities, third edition*; *Standards for Juvenile Detention Facilities, third edition*; *Standards for Juvenile Correctional Boot Camp Programs, first edition*; *Standards for Juvenile Training Schools, third edition*; *Standards for Small Juvenile Detention Facilities, first edition*; and *Small Jail Facilities, first edition*.]

ACA Public Correctional Policy on Adult/Juvenile Offender Access to Telephones

http://www.aca.org/government/policyresolution/view.asp?ID=2&origin=results&QS='PoliciesAndResolutionsYMGHFREName=Telephone&PoliciesAndResolutionsYMGHFRETtype=Policy&reversesearch=false&viewby=50&union=AND&startrec=1&top_parent=360 (last accessed 4 August 2008).