.1001 General

(a) The North Carolina Department of Correction, Division of Prisons encourages and supports involvement, of outside agencies and citizens in fulfilling its mission. Involvement and participation of other criminal justice systems, local, state, and national government agencies, citizens, and other outside agencies is encouraged through making information publicly available about our facilities and programs for inmates. The availability of this information assists other agencies and individuals with making informed decisions, participation, or other questions they may have regarding the NC Department of Correction, Division of Prisons.

(b) Outside agencies and individuals can be involved with the department and division in a variety of ways, ranging from an individual volunteer working a few hours a week to state and private agencies participating in an ongoing formal program. Whatever the level of involvement, it is important that both parties clearly understand their roles and responsibilities.

.1002 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance and information to employees, individuals, groups, other criminal justice systems, local, state, and national government agencies as to the role of outside entities with the Department of Correction, Division of Prisons, to make available the current division-wide programs that are in the best interest of the offender, to ensure participation or involvement is consistent with the overall objectives of the department and division, and that participation compliments and supports inmates’ current program involvement.

.1003 Procedure

(a) The NC Department of Correction, Division of Prisons does have written policy that guides and directs the role of most outside agencies and individuals in their involvement and participation. Where policy does not specify, it is important that an agreement be developed between the outside party and the NC Department of Correction, Division of Prisons. The formality with which an agreement must be made will vary with the kind of program being considered. However, the agreement should specify services to be rendered, to whom, for how long, and any financial arrangement.

(b) The NC Department of Correction makes available to the public information to assist in informed decision making, and knowledge of programs and services that are made available to inmates. This information may be obtained from the following areas:

(1) The North Carolina Department of Correction public website;
(2) The Department of Correction Public Affairs Office;

(3) The Department of Correction “Handbook for Family and Friends of Inmates”;

(4) The North Carolina Department of Correction Brochure.

[Signature]
Director of Prisons  Date  9/10/07

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