

Inmate Mail

806.1 POLICY

This office will provide ample opportunity for inmates to send and receive mail, subject to restriction only when there is a legitimate government interest.

806.2 MAIL GENERALLY

Inmates may, at their own expense, send and receive mail without restrictions on quantity, provided it does not jeopardized the safety of staff, visitors, or other inmates, or pose an unreasonable disruption to the orderly operation of the facility.

However, inmates are only allowed to store a limited amount of mail in their cells as determined by the Captain. Excess mail will be stored with the inmate's personal property and returned at his/her release.

806.3 INDIGENT INMATE REQUESTS FOR WRITING MATERIALS

Indigent inmates shall receive writing materials on a weekly basis, as provided by an approved schedule established by the Captain. Writing materials should include the following (15 CCR 1063):

- (a) At least two pre-stamped envelopes for correspondence with family and friends
- (b) At least two sheets of paper
- (c) One pen

Indigent inmates shall receive an amount of pre-stamped envelopes and writing paper sufficient to maintain communication with courts, legal counsel, officials of this office, elected officials, jail inspectors, government officials, and officials of the Board of State and Community Corrections. There shall be no limitation on the number of postage-paid envelopes and sheets of paper permitted for correspondence to the indigent inmate's attorney and to the courts (15 CCR 1063(e)).

Requests shall be screened and granted based on need by the Inmate Programs Coordinator. Inmates should not be permitted to maintain an excess supply of writing materials without the approval of a supervisor.

806.9 PROHIBITED MAIL

Contains instructions for manufacturing explosives, weapons, drugs, or other unlawful substances.

Advocates, encourages, depicts, or condones violence, use of weapons, gang related activities, or other conduct that jeopardizes jail security.

Advocates racial, religious, or national hatred or which otherwise contains matter of a character tending to incite murder, arson, riot or any other form of violence.

Obscene material as defined in California Penal Code 311, "Obscene Matter."

Inmate to inmate correspondence is prohibited unless approved by the Facility Commanding Officer or Designee.

Questionable materials will be referred to the Watch Commander and a decision will be rendered through the appropriate Chain of Command.

Polaroid photographs and photographs that are altered or blacked out in any manner will be returned to sender.

Sexually explicit or inappropriate material as determined by the searching Deputy will not be authorized and will be returned to sender.

Drawings on the outside of mailing envelopes will not be accepted and will be returned to the sender whether it is incoming or outgoing mail.

All "Not in Custody" mail will be re-checked and stamped "NIC" and returned to sender. "NIC" mail should not be searched prior to returning it to the sender.

Any letter containing items of contraband.