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# Program Statement

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OPI: OGC  
NUMBER: 1315.07  
DATE: 11/5/99  
SUBJECT: Legal Activities,  
Inmate

1. [**PURPOSE AND SCOPE** §543.10. The Bureau of Prisons affords an inmate reasonable access to legal materials and counsel, and reasonable opportunity to prepare legal documents. The Warden shall establish an inmate law library, and procedures for access to legal reference materials and to legal counsel, and for preparation of legal documents.]

2. **SUMMARY OF CHANGES.** The changes include allowing the Central Office to contact the institutions by way of BOPNet GroupWise or memorandum, rather than Operations Memorandum, to direct the ordering of law library materials.

The procedures for posting and maintaining Bureau and U.S. Parole Commission Federal Register documents at institutions are revised and streamlined. These documents will be sent via GroupWise to staff responsible for the institution law libraries instead of being issued by Operations Memoranda.

All references to the "Central Office Librarian" have been changed to "Bureau's Librarian" to reflect the Librarian's responsibility for providing services Bureau-wide.

The Standards Referenced have been updated to reflect the revised American Correctional Association standards.

Finally, the required publications in Attachments A, B, and C are updated to reflect a variety of changes including changes in name and title, volume numbers, publishers and publishing companies, etc. Specific changes to publications in Attachments A, B, and C, requirements for the main, satellite camp and basic inmate law libraries, include:

**[Bracketed Bold - Rules]**

Regular Type - Implementing Information

a. **Additions**

*Manual de Pautaus*, Zapp (Publicaciones Legales en Espanol, Inc.)

b. **Out-of-Print**

*Military Law Reporter* (Public Law Education Institute). This publication will no longer be available but institutions which currently have this volume should continue to keep these volumes on the shelves.

c. **Removal and Replacements**

The full-text of the *Federal Sentencing Guidelines* is included in the United States Code Annotated (USCA) volumes. Therefore, to prevent duplication and for cost containment, the other edition of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines published by West Group has been removed.

*Shepard's Federal 2d Citations* and *Federal Supplement Citations* has been combined into one publication, the *Shepard's Federal Citations* (Lexis Law Publishing).

*You and the Law* has been replaced with *ABA's Family Legal Guide* (Publications International Ltd).

*Ballentine's Law Dictionary* has been replaced with *Black's Law Dictionary*.

d. **Clarifications**

When single volumes of the *USCA* are purchased, the pamphlet volumes are not included. To indicate this, a notation has been added after the *USCA* titles in Attachments B and C for Satellite Camp and Basic Inmate Law Libraries, respectively.

The *Maryland Reporter* and *Atlantic 2d Reporter* are the only required legal publications for state case law that are provided. The publisher only makes available DC case law in print format through their regional reporter - *Atlantic 2d Reporter*, which also contains case law for other states in that region.

The Bureau **is not** mandated to provide state case law and other state legal materials.

3. **PROGRAM OBJECTIVES.** The expected results of this program are:

a. Inmates will have reasonable access to legal materials for preparation of legal documents.

b. Inmates will have reasonable opportunity to prepare their legal documents.

c. Inmates and staff will be able to make oaths and affirmations and have them witnessed by institution case managers, as authorized by 18 U.S.C. § 4004.

#### 4. **DIRECTIVES AFFECTED**

##### a. **Directive Rescinded**

PS 1315.06          Inmate Legal Activities (3/3/97)

##### b. **Directives Referenced**

PS 1350.02          Acceptance of Donations (6/29/98)

PS 2100.03          Budget Execution Manual (8/4/95)

PS 4500.04          Trust Fund/Warehouse/Laundry Manual  
(12/15/95)

PS 5264.06          Telephone Regulations for Inmates (12/22/95)

PS 5265.11          Correspondence (7/9/99)

PS 5266.08          Publications, Incoming (8/20/97)

PS 5270.07          Discipline and Special Housing Units  
(12/29/87)

PS 5580.05          Inmate Personal Property (9/30/96)

c. Rules cited in this Program Statement are contained in 28 CFR §543.10 through §543.16.

#### 5. **STANDARDS REFERENCED**

a. American Correctional Association 3rd Edition Standards for Adult Correctional Institutions: 3-4256, 3-4257, 3-4261, 3-4262, 3-4263, 3-4264, 3-4442, 3-4447

b. American Correctional Association 3rd Edition Standards for Adult Local Detention Facilities: 3-ALDF-3D-18, 3D-23, 3E-01, 3E-02, 3E-03, 5D-12

c. American Correctional Association 3rd Edition Standards for Boot Camp Programs: 1-ABC-3D-03

d. American Correctional Association 2nd Edition Standards for Administration of Correctional Agencies: 2-CO-5F-01

## 6. LAW LIBRARIES

a. **Main Law Libraries.** Each Warden must establish a main law library containing the materials listed in the Required Main Law Library Materials (Attachment A), unless an item is out of print.

Institutions must replace any misplaced or destroyed volumes within a reasonable time after staff become aware of the loss in any Bureau Law Library.

b. **Satellite Camp Law Libraries.** Each institution with a Satellite Camp must establish, at a minimum, a modified basic law library in the Satellite Camp that contains the materials listed in the Required Materials for Satellite Camp Law Libraries (Attachment B), unless an item is out of print.

Multiple copies are required for certain materials listed in Attachment B; however, Supervisors of Education may use their discretion in lending duplicate resources to other inmate law libraries.

For inventory and program review purposes, however, such materials are considered to be in the Satellite Camp law library.

c. **Basic Law Libraries.** A basic law library must contain the materials listed in the Required Materials for Basic Law Libraries (Attachment C), unless an item is out of print.

d. **New Law Libraries.** New institutions, or existing institutions constructing new housing units, must use start-up funds to purchase required law library materials (including the first annual subscription to the Criminal Law Reporter.)

The Bureau's Librarian may be consulted for assistance with ordering publications.

e. **Adding or Upgrading Law Libraries.** The Warden may request a basic law library be established when physical restrictions or inmate assignments prevent adequate access to the main law library.

Any request for an additional basic law library in an existing institution, or an upgrade to a main law library, is to be presented to the Regional Counsel for recommendation and forwarded to the General Counsel for a decision.

f. **Damaged Law Libraries.** Requests for replacement funding for missing or damaged books due to institution disturbances or natural causes should be forwarded to the Regional Director.

## 7. MAINTENANCE OF LAW LIBRARIES

a. The Central Office will fund the periodic updates of required law library materials and all new additions which are deemed necessary for one or more law libraries. Ordinarily, each institution must order its own publications.

The Central Office will notify institutions either by way of memoranda or GroupWise of:

- the publications required,
- the publishers and addresses for ordering the publications,
- the prices of the publications, and
- funding information.

b. The Supervisor of Education is to process new purchase requirements within 30 days of receipt of such notice and forward a copy of all orders charged to Accounting Classification Code (Actclass) FP090022G2, to the Bureau Librarian in the Central Office.

c. Maintenance of the materials is the institution's responsibility. Materials that have been lost or damaged must be replaced with institution funding. The Bureau Librarian may be consulted to help order replacements. Law books which are not required for all libraries may be added to an institution's law library collection under the following circumstances:

(1) Pursuant to the Program Statement on Acceptance of Donations, an inmate may donate an unwanted personally-owned law book to the law library; however, staff may decline such a gift. If there is a question about whether to accept a particular volume, the Regional Counsel and Ethics Officer may be consulted.

Donated materials, if lost or damaged, may not be replaced by the institution or the Central Office.

(2) If a person other than an inmate offers a donation to the institution law library collection, it may be accepted pursuant to the Program Statement on Acceptance of Donations. The Regional Counsel and Ethics Officer may be consulted about an appropriate response to the offer.

(3) State officials are responsible for providing state legal assistance and/or state legal materials to state inmates transferred to Federal custody. Staff may not interfere in an inmate's attempts to obtain such assistance or materials.

If state correctional officials elect to provide state legal materials for their inmates, the institution will suggest the manner in which such materials should be provided. The Regional Counsel must be notified if questions arise.

d. In June and December of each year, the Education Branch, Central Office will provide each Supervisor of Education an inventory checklist of required law library publications. Within 30 days of receipt, each Supervisor of Education must inventory each institution law library and list all missing or severely damaged materials on the checklist's discrepancy sheet.

Missing or severely damaged publications must be replaced using institution funds. One copy of the institution's completed inventory must be kept at the institution and one copy of the discrepancy sheet sent to the Central Office Education Administrator, the Regional Education Administrator, and the Regional Counsel.

e. Each institution must set aside a sufficiently large room where law library books will be kept to allow inmates the opportunity to work at tables without the need for removing the materials.

Each Reporter volume becomes a permanent part of the library collection. Therefore, the site for the law library should allow for the expanding nature of the collection.

f. Ordinarily, the Supervisor of Education is responsible for supervising the law library's upkeep and operation. Since legal materials are expensive, supervision of law library areas must be provided as necessary to protect the materials.

The Reporter and other statutory materials and case reporters are frequently updated, and correct placement of supplements and pocket parts is important. Out-of-date supplements and other outdated materials are to be disposed of when updated materials are received.

g. Institution copying equipment may be made available to reproduce materials needed for research outside the library area. When this is done, procedures should be established for an inmate to request a reasonable amount of reproduced material. It is suggested that the request form contain a space for the inmate to indicate why the material is needed outside the time that is made available in the library.

By providing enough hours for library usage and by making copying equipment available when possible, destruction and theft of legal materials should be reduced. Institutions may provide copy vending machines for inmate use.

8. **MILITARY LAW MATERIALS.** Several military law materials (see Attachment A) must be provided in the main law libraries at each institution.

a. Nine circulating sets of the Military Justice Reporter are available through the Bureau's Librarian in the Central Office.

(1) Upon receiving the Reporter, the Supervisor of Education will place the set in the institution's main law library.

(2) The Supervisor of Education must ensure that the requesting inmate is notified promptly that the Reporter is available. If that inmate does not have access to the main law library, the volumes are to be made available by alternative means, such as through a basic law library.

(3) An inmate may not maintain the materials in his or her cell or as personal property.

(4) The Bureau's Librarian will fill requests for circulating sets in the order received in the Central Office.

If requests exceed the number of circulating sets, the Librarian will notify the Supervisor of Education that the provided set will be withdrawn after 90 days. Ordinarily, this notification is given to the institution which has had a set the longest period of time.

The Supervisor of Education must place a notice to this effect with the set so that interested inmates are advised of the time period during which the set is available.

b. In addition to the nine circulating sets, a tenth set of the Reporter will remain in the Central Office Library and will not circulate. The Central Office Librarian must also maintain a single reference copy of Court-Martial Reports.

**(Note:** This is a different publication than the Court-Martial Reports Index and Citator.)

(1) An inmate may request copies of specific cases from either the Military Justice Reporter or Court-Martial Reports by submitting a written request to the institution's Supervisor of Education. The inmate's request must include case citations sufficient to permit identification.

(2) Ordinarily, the Supervisor of Education must respond to the request within five work days of receipt by forwarding the request (BOPNet GroupWise may be used) to the Bureau Librarian, with a notation of the date that the request was received.

(3) The Bureau Librarian must forward a copy of the requested cases to the Supervisor of Education ordinarily within five work days, but no later than 21 calendar days, from the date the request was received.

(4) Upon receiving the requested material, the Supervisor of Education must have the material placed in the institution's main law library (or other place he or she finds suitable) for use by the requesting inmate and other interested inmates.

The Supervisor of Education is to ensure that the requesting inmate is notified promptly that the requested cases are available.

(5) The inmate may not maintain the requested material in his or her cell or as personal property unless the inmate pays for a copy of the materials under the institution's established procedures for copying legal materials.

**9. FEDERAL REGISTER MATERIALS.** Federal Register documents (specifically, final rules, proposed rules, interim rules, and certain notices) pertaining to the Bureau and to the U.S. Parole Commission are to be maintained in the institution's inmate law libraries. Maintaining these documents in the inmate law libraries is intended to ensure that inmates have the opportunity to participate in the rulemaking process.

a. The Rules Administrator in the Office of General Counsel is to distribute these Federal Register documents to all institution Education Supervisors via GroupWise attachments. The Rules Administrator is to include in a second attachment, a List of Federal Register Documents available in the inmate law library.

Ordinarily, proposed rules and interim rules will be listed until such time as the Bureau issues a final rule document in the matter. Final rules will be listed until the rules become available in the annual revision of title 28 of the Code of Federal Regulations.



b. The Education Supervisor must distribute the attachments (either on paper or via GroupWise) to staff responsible for the institution's inmate law libraries. Staff assigned to the institution law libraries are to maintain paper copies of the Federal Register documents along with the most recent copy of the List of Federal Register Documents.

c. The Education Supervisor must forward a copy of the most recent List of Federal Register Documents to institution Unit Managers for posting on inmate bulletin boards. The List of Federal Register Documents serves to notify inmates that the documents are available in the inmate law libraries.

d. The Education Supervisor must provide a copy to the President of the local union of any of these Federal Register documents pertaining to the Bureau. Union representatives may send comments on proposed or interim rules as members of the public directly to the Rules Administrator.

e. The Education Supervisor must also ensure that a copy of each Federal Register document is posted on at least one centrally located staff bulletin board. Staff may send comments on proposed or interim rules as members of the public directly to the Rules Administrator, and need not send such comments through the normal "chain of command."

10. **[LEGAL RESEARCH AND PREPARATION OF LEGAL DOCUMENTS §543.11**

a. **The Warden shall make materials in the inmate law library available whenever practical, including evening and weekend hours. The Warden shall allow an inmate a reasonable amount of time, ordinarily during the inmate's leisure time (that is, when the inmate is not participating in a scheduled program or work assignment), to do legal research and to prepare legal documents. Where practical, the Warden shall allow preparation of documents in living quarters during an inmate's leisure time.**

b. **The Warden shall periodically ensure that materials in each inmate law library are kept intact and that lost or damaged materials are replaced.**

c. **Staff shall advise an inmate of rules and local procedures governing use of the inmate law library. Unauthorized possession of library materials by an inmate constitutes a prohibited act, generally warranting disciplinary action (see part 541 of this chapter).]**

Part 541 refers to the Program Statement on Inmate Discipline and Special Housing Units.

[d. An inmate's legal materials include but are not limited to the inmate's pleadings and documents (such as a pre-sentence report) that have been filed in court or with another judicial or administrative body, drafts of pleadings to be submitted by the inmate to a court or with other judicial or administrative body which contain the inmate's name and/or case caption prominently displayed on the first page, documents pertaining to an inmate's administrative case, photocopies of legal reference materials, and legal reference materials which are not available in the institution main law library (or basic law library in a satellite camp).]

Staff must consult with Regional Counsel if there is any question whether certain items qualify as legal materials.

[(1) An inmate may solicit or purchase legal materials from outside the institution. The inmate may receive the legal materials in accordance with the provisions on incoming publications or correspondence (see 28 CFR part 540, subparts B and F) or through an authorized attorney visit from a retained attorney. The legal materials are subject to inspection and may be read or copied unless they are received through an authorized attorney visit from a retained attorney or are properly sent as special mail (for example, mail from a court or from an attorney), in which case they may be inspected for contraband or for the purpose of verifying that the mail qualifies as special mail.]

28 CFR part 540, subparts B and F refer to the Program Statements on Correspondence and Incoming Publications respectively.

[(2) Staff may allow an inmate to possess those legal materials which are necessary for the inmate's own legal actions. Staff may also allow an inmate to possess the legal materials of another inmate subject to the limitations of paragraph (f)(2) of this section. The Warden may limit the amount of legal materials an inmate may accumulate for security or housekeeping reasons.]

To ensure that legal materials do not become a security or housekeeping hazard (e.g., fire, sanitation), each institution may establish a limit on the amount of, and storage location for legal materials in the inmate's living area.

The amount of storage space provided for legal materials depends upon the total storage space available. Ordinarily, the amount may not be restricted below three cubic feet per inmate. In a segregation or detention area, the amount ordinarily may not be restricted below one cubic foot per inmate.

Alternate storage areas may be provided only for storing excess legal materials. The Regional Counsel may be consulted if there is a question as to the need for bulky or excess legal material, or if there is any question regarding the applicability of the legal materials to the inmate's own legal actions.

**[e. An inmate is responsible for submitting his documents to court. Institution staff who are authorized to administer oaths shall be available to provide necessary witnessing of these documents, as requested by inmates and at times scheduled by staff.]**

See Section 16 for further instructions on administering oaths and acknowledgments.

**f. (1) Except as provided for in paragraph f.(4) of this section, an inmate may assist another inmate in the same institution during his or her leisure time (as defined in paragraph a. of this section) with legal research and the preparation of legal documents for submission to a court or other judicial body.]**

Any assistance offered by one inmate to another is voluntary. An inmate is not entitled to assistance from any specific inmate. Because no inmate may conduct a business, the assisting inmate may not receive compensation. The assisting inmate shall not be provided any privileges ordinarily afforded to attorneys or paralegals, clerks, and legal assistants, even if the inmate was an attorney before his or her incarceration.

Inmates who are in different institutions are prohibited from providing legal assistance to each other except to the extent that they may be allowed to correspond with each other about legal matters. For example, immediate family members or co-defendants or co-plaintiffs may receive approval to exchange correspondence (see the Program Statement on Correspondence).

Inmates who are allowed to exchange correspondence may choose to include legal material pertinent to their joint action in their correspondence. Enclosed legal material, however, is subject to inspection and can be read or copied.

Legal material which co-defendants or co-plaintiffs receive through special mail or from an attorney through an attorney visit is subject to inspection for contraband or qualification as special mail only, and may not be read or copied.

**[(2) Except as provided for in paragraph f.(4) of this section, an inmate may possess another inmate's legal materials while assisting the other inmate in the institution's main law library and in another location if the Warden so designates.**

**(a) The assisting inmate may not remove another inmate's legal materials, including copies of the legal materials, from the law library or other designated location. An assisting inmate is permitted to make handwritten notes and to remove those notes from the library or other designated location if the notes do not contain a case caption or document title or the name(s) of any inmate(s). The assisting inmate may also develop and possess handwritten drafts of pleadings, so long as the draft pleadings do not contain a case caption or document title or the name(s) of any inmate(s). These notes and drafts are not considered to be the assisting inmate's legal property, and when the assisting inmate has these documents outside the law library or other designated location, they are subject to the property limitations in § 553.11(a) of this chapter.]**

§553.11(a) refers to the Program Statement on Inmate Personal Property.

**[(b) Although the inmate being assisted need not remain present in the law library or other designated location while the assistance is being rendered, that inmate is responsible for providing and retrieving his or her legal materials from the library or other designated location. Ordinarily, the inmate must provide and retrieve his or her legal materials during his or her leisure time. An inmate with an imminent court deadline may request a brief absence from a scheduled program or work assignment in order to provide or retrieve legal materials from an assisting inmate.]**

The law library is the most appropriate location for allowing inmates to assist one another with legal matters however, the Warden may choose to designate additional locations.

Where it is difficult to use the institution's main law library (for example, at a medical facility, a metropolitan detention center, a metropolitan correctional center, an administration maximum security facility, an administrative high security level institution, or in a special housing unit,

pretrial unit, or holdover unit), the Warden should designate another location. The need for institution security, good order, or discipline, however, may prevent the use of another location.

The inmate being assisted must bring his or her legal materials to the law library or other designated location to provide them to the assisting inmate. The assisting inmate may not remove the legal materials from the law library or other designated location.

Legal materials left unattended in the law library or other designated location may be disposed of as nuisance contraband or returned by staff to the owner. Staff are to consult with institution legal staff or Regional Counsel if they have a question about who owns the legal materials.

**[(3) The Warden may give special consideration to the legal needs of inmates in mental health seclusion status in federal medical centers or to inmates in controlled housing.]**

**[(4) The Warden at any institution may impose limitations on an inmate's assistance to another inmate in the interest of institution security, good order, or discipline.]**

For reasons of security, inmates in an administrative institution or unit or in a special housing unit have limited access to other inmates on those units and no access to general population inmates. Legal assistance under Section 10 of this Program Statement remains available for such inmates.

**[g. The institution staff shall, upon an inmate's request and at times scheduled by staff, duplicate legal documents if the inmate demonstrates that more than one copy must be submitted to court and that the duplication cannot be accomplished by use of carbon paper. The inmate shall bear the cost, and the duplication shall be done so as not to interfere with regular institution operations. Staff may waive the cost if the inmate is without funds or if the material to be duplicated is minimal, and the inmate's requests for duplication are not large or excessive.]**

To prevent abuses of this provision (e.g., inmate shows a pattern of depleting his or her commissary funds prior to requesting duplication of legal documents), the Warden may impose restrictions on the provisions of this subsection. In such cases, staff may request that the inmate complete the appropriate form for reimbursement (BP-CMS-21/24) for the amount of legal copies received at government expense. Commissary staff will

hold the BP-CMS-21/24 form and charge the reimbursement against the inmate's account as soon as the inmate has funds (see the Trust Fund/Warehouse/Laundry Manual.)

**[h. Unless clearly impractical, the Warden shall allow an inmate preparing legal documents to use a typewriter, or if the inmate cannot type, to have another inmate type his documents. The Warden may allow the inmate to hire a public stenographer to type documents outside the institution, but the institution may not assume the expense of hiring the public stenographer. Staff shall advise the inmate of any delay in the typing of which they have received notice from the stenographer.]**

**[i. The Warden shall give special time allowance for research and preparation of documents to an inmate who demonstrates a requirement to meet an imminent court deadline. Otherwise, each inmate shall continue his regular institutional activities without undue disruption by legal activities.]**

Inmates who request time to do legal research and preparation for filing legal documents during their regularly scheduled work time may be required to do so first during all available leisure time. When such requests are made, staff may also authorize the inmate to work reduced hours. For example, an inmate may be allowed mornings to do legal research, work in the afternoons, and then use evenings for further research. The Regional Counsel may be consulted regarding such arrangements.

**[j. With consideration of the needs of other inmates and the availability of staff and other resources, the Warden shall provide an inmate confined in disciplinary segregation or administrative detention a means of access to legal materials, along with an opportunity to prepare legal documents. The Warden shall allow an inmate in segregation or detention a reasonable amount of personal legal materials. In no case shall the amount of personal legal materials be such as to pose a fire, sanitation, security, or housekeeping hazard.]**

A reasonable amount of personal legal material in segregation or detention is approximately one cubic foot. Greater amounts may be allowed when an inmate has an imminent court deadline. The Regional Counsel should be consulted before accumulation of legal materials is limited for housekeeping reasons.

11. [RETENTION OF ATTORNEYS §543.12

a. The Warden shall allow an inmate to contact and retain attorneys. With the written consent of the inmate, staff may advise an attorney of the inmate's available funds. Staff may not interfere with selection and retention of attorneys if the inmate has attained majority and is mentally competent. If the inmate is a mental incompetent or a minor, the Warden shall refer to the inmate's guardian or to the appropriate court all matters concerning the retention and payment of attorneys.]

The Warden must ensure that a list of legal resources (including attorneys acting pro bono or through an established legal aid program at the institution) is made available.

[b. The Bureau of Prisons may not act as guarantor or collector of fees. As to correspondence with attorneys and telephone calls to attorneys, see part 540 of this chapter.]

Part 540 refers to the Program Statement on Correspondence and the Program Statement on Telephone Regulations for Inmates.

12. [VISITS BY ATTORNEYS §543.13

a. The Warden shall, under the conditions of this section, permit visits by the retained, appointed, or prospective attorney of an inmate or by an attorney who wishes to interview an inmate as a witness.

b. The Warden generally may not limit the frequency of attorney visits since the number of visits necessary is dependent upon the nature and urgency of the legal problems involved. The Warden shall set the time and place for visits, which ordinarily take place during regular visiting hours. Attorney visits shall take place in a private conference room, if available, or in a regular visiting room in an area and at a time designed to allow a degree of privacy. The Warden may make exceptions according to local conditions or for an emergency situation demonstrated by the inmate or visiting attorney.]

To the extent practicable, staff are to provide an area for attorney-client visits that ensures their conversation has a high degree of privacy.

[c. The attorney shall make an advance appointment for the visit through the Warden prior to each visit; however, the Warden shall make every effort to arrange for a visit when prior notification is not practical.

d. The Warden may require an attorney to indicate where he is licensed as an attorney and how that fact may be verified. Prior to each appointment or visit, the Warden shall require each attorney to identify himself and to confirm that he wishes to visit an inmate who has requested his visit or whom he represents or whom he wishes to interview as a witness. The Warden may not ask the attorney to state the subject matter of the lawsuit or interview. If there is any question about the identity of the visitor or his qualification as an attorney in good standing, the Warden shall refer the matter to the Regional Counsel.

e. Staff may not subject visits between an attorney and an inmate to auditory supervision. The Warden may permit tape recordings to be used by an attorney during the course of a visit only if the attorney states in writing in advance of the interview that the sole purpose of the recording is to facilitate the attorney-client or attorney-witness relationship.]

Ordinarily, the use of any other electronic device (for example, videotape recorders or computers) are not to be permitted. The Warden may permit such use, however, if it is shown that such use is absolutely essential to facilitate the attorney-client relationship, and such use would not be inconsistent with the institution's maintenance of security, good order, or discipline. The Visiting Attorney Statement (BP-S241.013) is a sample of a statement which institution staff may reproduce locally.

[f. The Warden may, at any time, subject an attorney to a search of his person and belongings for the purpose of ascertaining if contraband is present, as a condition of visiting an inmate.]

Procedures for the exchange of legal documents in the visiting room should be placed either in an Institution Supplement on Legal Activities or in the required Institution Supplement on Visiting.

13. [LIMITATION OR DENIAL OF ATTORNEY VISITS AND CORRESPONDENCE  
§543.14

a. An act by an attorney which violates Bureau regulations or institution guidelines and which threatens the security, good order, or discipline of the institution is grounds for limitation



or denial by the Warden of the attorney's privileged visitation and correspondence rights. Acts by an attorney which may warrant such limitation or denial include, for example, the following:

(1) A false statement as to the attorney's identity or qualifications;

(2) A plan, attempt, or act to introduce contraband into the institution;

(3) A conspiracy to commit, an attempt to commit, or the actual commission of an act of violence within an institution; and

(4) Encouraging an inmate to violate the law, Bureau of Prisons rules, or local implementing guidelines.

b. Unless the breach of regulations is extreme or repeated, limitation rather than a denial of visitation or correspondence rights is proper, especially where the inmate is represented by the attorney and is confronted with a court deadline. For example, the Warden may subject an attorney to a search of his person and belongings or may permit the attorney only non-privileged correspondence. The Warden shall also consider referral of the matter to the state agency regulating the attorney's professional conduct.]

The Warden must consult with the Regional Counsel before taking action under this subsection.

[c. An act by an inmate in violation of Bureau regulations or institution guidelines warrants a limitation by the Warden of the inmate's correspondence or visiting rights with attorneys only if necessary to protect institution security, good order, or discipline. The Warden may not deny correspondence or visiting rights with attorneys generally.]

The Warden must consult with the Regional Counsel before taking action under this subsection.

[d. The attorney may appeal any limitation or denial by the Warden of attorney visits or correspondence rights to the Regional Director. The inmate affected may appeal through the Administrative Remedy Procedures.]

14. [LEGAL AID PROGRAM §543.15

a. A legal aid program which is funded or approved by the Bureau is expected to provide a broad range of legal assistance to inmates. Staff shall allow these programs generally to operate with the same independence as privately retained attorneys. The Warden shall refer a request or decision to terminate or restrict a program, or individual participants in a program, to the Regional Counsel.

b. In order to promote the inmate-program relationship, the Warden shall give those students or legal assistants working in legal aid programs the same status as attorneys with respect to visiting and correspondence except where specific exceptions are made in this section and in part 540 of this chapter.]

Part 540 refers to the Program Statement on Correspondence.

[c. An attorney or law school professor shall supervise students and legal assistants participating in the program. The supervisor shall provide the Warden with a signed statement accepting professional responsibility for acts of each student or legal assistant affecting the institution. The Warden may require each student or legal assistant to complete and sign a personal history statement and a pledge to abide by Bureau regulations and institution guidelines. If necessary to maintain security or good order in the institution, the Warden may prohibit a student or legal assistant from visiting or corresponding with an inmate.]

When an attorney requests that a student or legal assistant be allowed to correspond or visit an inmate, staff ordinarily should confirm the request by completing the Paralegal or Legal Assistant Confirmation (BP-S242.013). This confirmation should be given or sent to the supervising attorney, along with the Application to Enter Institution as Representative (BP-S243.013). The Warden may require each student or legal assistant to complete a BP-S243.013. The form may be reproduced locally.

The Warden must consult with the Regional Counsel if there is a question regarding the qualifications of a participant before a final determination is made, or on any recommendation or decision to limit or prohibit a student or legal assistant.

15. [OTHER PARALEGALS, CLERKS, AND LEGAL ASSISTANTS §543.16

a. The Bureau of Prisons recognizes the use of assistants by attorneys to perform legal tasks and, with proper controls and exceptions enumerated in this section and in part 540 of this chapter, accords such assistants the same status as attorneys with respect to visiting and correspondence.]

Part 540 refers to the Program Statement on Correspondence.

The special visiting/correspondence status accorded to paralegals, clerks, and legal assistants depends upon an ongoing, supervisory relationship with an attorney on an approved visiting/correspondence list. Absent any current supervisory relationship, such persons may only receive social visiting or general correspondence privileges.

A request by a paralegal, law clerk, or legal assistant for social visiting/general correspondence privileges must be evaluated and considered on the same basis as requests from non-legal persons.

The Warden must consult with the Regional Counsel if there is a question regarding the status of such persons before making a final determination, or any recommendation or decision to limit or prohibit the visiting/correspondence privileges of such persons.

[b. The attorney who employs an assistant and who wishes the assistant to visit or correspond with an inmate on legal matters shall provide the Warden with a signed statement including:

(1) Certification of the assistant's ability to perform in this role and awareness of the responsibility of this position;

(2) A pledge to supervise the assistant's activities; and

(3) Acceptance of personal and professional responsibility for all acts of the assistant which may affect the institution, its inmates, and staff. The Warden may require each assistant to fill out and sign a personal history statement and a pledge to abide by Bureau regulations and institution guidelines. If necessary to maintain security or good order in the institution, the Warden may prohibit a legal assistant from visiting or corresponding with an inmate.]

The Warden may require each paralegal, clerk, or legal assistant to complete a BP-S243.013.

16. **ADMINISTERING OATHS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.** 28 U.S.C. § 1746 provides that an unsworn declaration under penalty of perjury may be used with "like force and effect" as a sworn declaration, verification, certification, statement, oath, or affidavit, when such action is required by any law, rule, regulation, order, or requirement of the United States. Exceptions specified in the statute are a deposition, an oath of office, and an oath required to be taken before a specified official other than a notary public.

Since most documents inmates sign are pursuant to a United States law, rule, or regulation, a sworn oath is often not required.

When an unsworn declaration is not sufficient, 18 U.S.C. § 4004 authorizes specified Bureau staff to administer oaths and take acknowledgments of officers, employees, and inmates. Thus, while state and local laws may often refer only to a notary public (or similar officials) because they are the only officials authorized by state law to administer oaths and witness signatures, Federal law also authorizes certain Bureau officials to perform such functions in Federal prisons.

a. **Unsworn Declarations.** Other than for the exceptions cited above, staff need not administer oaths and witness inmate signatures on any documents to be filed in Federal courts or with Federal agencies, unless directly instructed to do so by the Court or agency. Inmates may make their own unsworn declaration on such documents by placing the following paragraph at the end of the document:

"I declare (or certify, verify or state), under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on (date)."

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(Signature)

b. **Oaths.** Unsworn declarations are not legally sufficient for declarations on depositions, for oaths of office, or for oaths required to be taken before an official other than a notary

public. In addition, documents for submission to state courts and state agencies may require a sworn declaration. For such documents, it is Bureau policy to administer oaths prior to witnessing the signatures of persons executing these documents.

(1) **Administering Oaths.** Title 18 U.S.C. § 4004 provides:

**"The wardens and superintendents, associate wardens and superintendents, chief clerks, and record clerks, of Federal penal or correctional institutions, may administer oaths to and take acknowledgments of officers, employees, and inmates of such institutions, but shall not demand or accept any fee or compensation therefor."**

For the purpose of this Program Statement, institution Case Managers are considered to be chief clerks.

The person giving the oath must face the oath administrator and raise his or her right hand while the administrator states:

You do solemnly, sincerely, and truly swear that the various matters and things set forth in this paper which you are about to sign before me are true, and that you do this under the pains and penalties of perjury.

After receiving the affirmative answer, the proper stamp is to be affixed in the necessary places, and the paper(s) duly signed by parties in the places provided.

(2) **Administering Affirmations.** Affirmations are to be offered for individuals who cannot or do not wish to swear or take oaths.

The person giving the affirmation must face the affirmation administrator and raise his or her right hand while the administrator states:

You do solemnly, sincerely, and truly affirm and declare that the various matters and things set forth in this paper which you are about to sign before me are true, and that you do this under the pains and penalties of perjury.

After receiving the affirmative answer, the proper stamp is to be affixed in the necessary places, and the paper(s) duly signed by parties in the places provided.

(3) **Stamps.** The following shall be the wording of the stamps used:

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
(name) (title)  
Authorized by the Act of July 7, 1955, as amended, to  
administer oaths (18 U.S.C. § 4004).

(4) **Validity of Witnessing.** Any document witnessed without the initiator's taking the oath or affirmation may be invalid. The witnessing of a person's signature in no way is a representation by the witness as to the validity of the material or its contents, but is an indication that the document has been signed by the individual whose signature appears thereon.

c. **Staff Responsibility.** Each Warden will assign an employee to instruct appropriate personnel in the proper procedures to follow in witnessing signatures and in giving affirmations. Each person issued a stamp is responsible for its control and safekeeping, so it will not be available to unauthorized persons.

/s/  
Kathleen Hawk Sawyer  
Director

**REQUIRED MAIN LAW LIBRARY MATERIALS**

1. REPORTERS:

- a. United States Supreme Court Reports (Lawyers' Edition 2d Series), Volume 4-26, 37-present (Lexis Law Publishing Co.) (New institutions should order Volumes 4 - present).
- b. Supreme Court Reporter, Volumes 91 - 93A (West Group) (New institutions do not order.)
- c. Decisions of the United States Supreme Court, 1964 - present (Lexis Law Publishing Co.).
- d. Federal Reporter, 2d Series, Volumes 267 - 999 (West Group).
- e. Federal Reporter, 3d Series, Volumes 1 - present (West Group).
- f. Federal Supplement, Volumes 173 - present (West Group).
- g. Maryland Reporter, volumes 91 - present (contains District of Columbia Court of Appeals cases that are also published in the Atlantic 2nd Reporter) (West Group).
- h. Military Justice Reporter, Volume 36 No. 1 - present (West Group) (new institutions should order complete set).
- i. Criminal Law Reporter (new institutions purchase first annual subscription; subsequent subscriptions ordered by Central Office) (BNA).

2. STATUTES:

- a. United States Code Annotated, complete set (West Group).
- b. United States Constitution, including Amendments (West Group).
- c. District of Columbia Code Annotated, complete set (Michie Publishing Co.).

3. RULES:

- a. Federal Civil Judicial Procedures & Rules (West Group).
- b. Federal Criminal Code & Rules (West Group).
- c. Military Rules of Evidence Manual, Saltzburg, Schinasi &

Schlueter (Michie Publishing Co.).

4. REGULATIONS:

- a. Title 8 of the Code of Federal Regulations (U.S. Government Printing Office).
- b. Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations, chapter II, Part 1300 to end (U.S. Government Printing Office).
- c. Title 28 of the Code of Federal Regulations (U.S. Government Printing Office).

5. PROGRAM STATEMENTS:

- a. All current Bureau of Prisons Program Statements which contain rules codified in Chapters III or V of Title 28 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
- b. Any other Program Statement or Institution Supplement that the Warden may deem to be of interest to the inmate population, except for those documents that are restricted.

6. OTHER MATERIALS:

- a. American Jurisprudence 2d edition, complete set. (West Group).
- b. Black's Law Dictionary (West Group).
- c. Complete Manual of Criminal Forms, Bailey and Rothblatt (West Group).
- d. Constitutional Rights of Prisoners, Palmer (Anderson Publishing Co.).
- e. Law of Sentencing, Corrections and Prisoners' Rights, Krantz (West Group).
- f. Criminal Practice Institute Trial Manual, two volumes (Public Defenders Service).
- g. Criminal Procedure in a Nutshell, Israel and LaFave (West Group).
- h. Court Martial Reports Index and Citator, (Loaned by Central Office Library).



- i. Federal Habeas Corpus Practice and Procedure, Liebman and Hertz (Michie Publishing Co.) (all volumes and supplements).
- j. Immigration Law and Procedure, Gordon and Gordon (one volume) (Matthew Bender Publishing Co.).
- k. Legal Research in a Nutshell, Cohen and Kent (West Group).
- l. Legal Research and Writing: Some Starting Points, Statsky (West Group).
- m. Manual de Pautaus, Zapp (Publicaciones Legales en Espanol, Inc.).
- n. Manual for Courts-Martial, 1995, United States (U.S. Government Printing Office).
- o. Manual for Prison Law Libraries, Werner (Rothman Publishing Co.).
- p. Military Criminal Justice: Practice and Procedure, Schlueter, 1982 Edition and Supplements (Michie Publishing Co.).
- q. Military Justice Digest (West Group).
- r. Modern Criminal Procedure, Israel and Kamisar (West Group).
- s. Prisoners' Assistance Directory (The National Prison Project)
- t. Shepard's, for District of Columbia (Shepard's).
- u. Shepard's United States Citations (Shepard's).
- v. Shepard's Federal Citations (Shepard's).
- w. Spanish/English Law Dictionary, Solis (West Group).
- x. United States Supreme Court Digest Annotated (complete set) (Lexis Law Publishing Co.).
- y. ABA's Family Legal Guide (Random House).

REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR SATELLITE CAMP LAW LIBRARIES

1. REPORTERS:

- a. Decisions of the United States Supreme Court, 1964 - present. (Lexis Law Publishing Co.).
- b. Federal Reporter, 2d Series, Volumes 604 - 999 (West Group).
- c. Federal Reporter, 3d Series, Volumes 1 - present (West Group).
- d. Criminal Law Reporter (new institutions purchase first annual subscription; subsequent subscriptions ordered by Central Office) (BNA).

2. STATUTES:

- a. United States Code Annotated. (West Group). (Pamphlet volumes not included)
  - (1) Title 5, sections 1 - 5100.
  - (2) Title 18, complete.
  - (3) Title 21, complete.
  - (4) Title 26, sections 3101 to end.
  - (5) Title 28, volumes containing the Rules of the United States Supreme Court, United States Court of Appeals Rules and Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure.
  - (6) Title 28, sections 2201 to end.
  - (7) Title 42, sections 1771 - 2010.
- b. United States Constitution and Amendments, (complete).

3. RULES:

- a. Federal Civil Judicial Procedures & Rules (West Group).
- b. Federal Criminal Code & Rules (West Group).

4. REGULATIONS:

Title 28 of the Code of Federal Regulations  
(U.S. Government Printing Office) (three copies).\*

5. PROGRAM STATEMENTS:

a. All current Bureau of Prisons Program Statements which contain rules codified in Chapters III or V of Title 28 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

b. Any other Program Statement or Institution Supplement that the Warden may deem to be of interest to the inmate population, with the exception of those documents that are restricted.

6. OTHER MATERIALS:

a. Black's Law Dictionary (West Group).

b. Complete Manual of Criminal Forms, Bailey and Fishman (West Group).

c. Constitutional Rights of Prisoners, Palmer (Anderson Publishing Co.).

d. Law of Sentencing, Corrections and Prisoners' Rights, Krantz (West Group).

e. Criminal Procedure in a Nutshell, Israel and LaFave (West Group) (three copies).\*

f. Federal Habeas Corpus Practice and Procedure, Liebman and Hertz (Michie Publishing Co.) (all volumes and supplements) (two copies).\*

g. Legal Research in a Nutshell, Cohen and Kent (West Group) (three copies).

h. Legal Research and Writing: Some Starting Points, Statsky (West Publishing Co.).

i. Manual for Courts-Martial, 1995, United States (U.S. Government Printing Office).

j. Modern Criminal Procedure, Israel and Kamisar (West Group).

k. Prisoners' Assistance Directory (The National Prison Project).

l. ABA's Family Legal Guide,  
(Publications International Ltd.).

\* These copies may be loaned to other inmate law libraries at the Supervisor of Education's discretion.

REQUIRED MATERIALS FOR BASIC LAW LIBRARIES

1. REPORTERS:

a. Decisions of the United States Supreme Court,  
1964 - present. (Lexis Law Publishing Co.).

b. Criminal Law Reporter (new institutions purchase first  
annual subscription; subsequent subscriptions ordered by  
Central Office) (BNA).

2. STATUTES:

a. United States Code Annotated. (West Group).  
(Pamphlet volumes not included)

(1) Title 5, sections 1 - 5100.

(2) Title 18, complete.

(3) Title 21, complete.

(4) Title 26, sections 3101 to end.

(5) Title 28, volumes containing the Rules of the  
United States Supreme Court, United States Court of  
Appeals Rules and Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure.

(6) Title 28, sections 2201 to End.

(7) Title 42, sections 1771 - 2010.

b. United States Constitution and Amendments, (complete).

3. RULES:

a. Federal Civil Judicial Procedures & Rules (West Group).

b. Federal Criminal Code & Rules (West Group).

4. REGULATIONS:

a. Title 28 of the Code of Federal Regulations  
(U.S. Government Printing Office).

5. PROGRAM STATEMENTS:

- a. All current Bureau of Prisons Program Statements which contain rules codified in Chapters III or V of Title 28 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
- b. Any other Program Statement or Institution Supplement that the Warden may deem to be of interest to the inmate population, with the exception of those documents that are restricted.

6. OTHER MATERIALS:

- a. Black's Law Dictionary (West Group).
- b. Complete Manual of Criminal forms, Bailey and Fishman (West Group).
- c. Constitutional Rights of Prisoners, Palmer (Anderson Publishing Co.).
- d. Law of Sentencing, Corrections and Prisoners' Rights, Krantz (West Group).
- e. Criminal Procedure in a Nutshell, Israel and LaFave (West Group).
- f. Federal Habeas Corpus Practice and Procedure, Liebman and Hertz (Michie Publishing Co.) (all volumes and supplements).
- g. Legal Research in a Nutshell, Cohen (West Group).
- h. Legal Research and Writing: Some Starting Points, Statsky (West Group).
- i. Manual for Courts-Martial, 1995, United States (U.S. Government Printing Office).
- j. Modern Criminal Procedure, Israel and Kamisar (West Publishing Co.).
- k. Prisoners' Assistance Directory (The National Prison Project).
- l. ABA's Family Legal Guide, (Publications International Ltd.).

BP-S241.013 VISITING ATTORNEY STATEMENT,  
is available on BOPDOCS

BP-S242.013 PARALEGAL OR LEGAL ASSISTANT CONFIRMATION,  
is available on BOPDOCS.



BP-S243.013 APPLICATION TO ENTER INSTITUTION AS REPRESENTATIVE,  
is available on BOPDOCS.