

# **State of Iowa Department of Corrections**

## **Policy and Procedures**

Policy Number: IO-OR-01

Applicability: Institutions

Policy Code: Public Access

Iowa Code Reference: N/A

Chapter 3: INSTITUTIONAL OPERATION

Sub Chapter: OFFENDER RIGHTS

Related DOC Policies: N/A

Administrative Code Reference: N/A

Subject: SOCIAL MEDIA

ACA Standards: N/A

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Authority:

### **1. PURPOSE**

To describe guidelines and procedures to be used at all Iowa Department of Corrections (IDOC) institutions for guidelines on incarcerated individual social media accounts.

### **2. POLICY**

It is the policy of the IDOC that incarcerated individuals are not permitted to enter into or maintain a social media account.

### **CONTENTS**

- A. Incarcerated Individual Responsibility
- B. Incarcerated individuals shall not receive information from social media sites regardless of the type of information, or owner of the account. This includes downloaded material.
- C. Accounts Prior to Incarceration (Social media accounts in the name of the incarcerated individual or others set up prior to incarceration of incarcerated individual)
- D. Accounts Set Up During Incarceration

### **3. DEFINITIONS - As used in this document:**

Social Media - Forms of electronic communication (as Web sites for social networking and microblogging) through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages, and other content (as videos) – example Facebook

### **4. PROCEDURES**

#### **A. Incarcerated Individual Responsibility**

1. An incarcerated individual who possessed a social media account (i.e. Facebook) prior to entering prison shall not use that account via a third party.
2. Additionally, incarcerated individuals shall not set up a social media account or in any way participate in a social media account through a 3rd party.

#### **B. Incarcerated individuals shall not receive information from social media sites regardless of the type of information, or owner of the account. This includes downloaded material.**

#### **C. Accounts Prior to Incarceration (Social media accounts in the name of the incarcerated individual or others set up prior to incarceration of incarcerated individual)**

1. Incarcerated Individuals shall not request anyone to access their personal social media accounts for any reason through correspondence to include visits, phone, mail or o-mail.
2. Incarcerated individuals shall not request that others post information for them on social media sites for any reason through correspondence to include visits, phone, mail or o-mail.
3. Sex offenders are forbidden to have social media accounts per social media rules.

#### **D. Accounts Set Up During Incarceration**

1. The creation of social media sites in the name of another person is forbidden by social media rules.

2. Request by an incarcerated individual to enlist third person action regarding social media could result in loss of communication privileges and/or discipline.
3. At no time shall correspondence be allowed in or out of the IDOC facilities which contains any communications about social media.