I. PURPOSE

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

II. POLICY

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

CONTENTS

A. Offender Responsibility

B. Accounts Prior to Incarceration (Social media accounts in the name of the offender or others set up prior to incarceration of offender)

C. Accounts Set Up During Incarceration
III. DEFINITIONS

A. 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

B. See IDOC Policy AD-GA-16 for additional Definitions.

IV. PROCEDURES

A. Offender Responsibility

1. An offender who possessed a social media account (i.e. Facebook) prior to entering prison shall not use that account via a third party.

2. Additionally, offenders shall not set up a social media account or in any way participate in a social media account through a 3rd party.

B. Accounts Prior to Incarceration (Social media accounts in the name of the offender or others set up prior to incarceration of offender)

1. Offenders shall not receive information from social media sites regardless of the type of information, or owner of the account.

2. Offenders shall not request anyone to access their personal social media accounts for any reason through correspondence to include visits, phone, mail or e-mail.

3. Offenders shall not request that others post information for them on social media sites for any reason through correspondence to include visits, phone, mail or e-mail.

4. Sex offenders are forbidden to have social media accounts per social media rules.

C. 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 offender 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.