

STATE OF INDIANA Department of Correction Indiana Government Center—South

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Robert E. Carter Jr.
Commissioner

May 2, 2022

EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE # 22-23

This Executive Directive provides guidance and direction for physical contact between incarcerated individuals and their families/friends during visitation. This Executive Directive is effective May 16, 2022 and is applicable to all facilities housing incarcerated adults. Effective May 16, Executive Directive # 22-17 is rescinded.

Policy and Administrative Procedure 02-01-102, "Offender Visitation," Section XIX, "Body Contact Between Offenders and Visitors," states:

"Offenders and visitors may be physically separated. In those cases where an offender and visitor are permitted contact, the offender and visitor may be permitted to shake hands, embrace, or kiss briefly at the beginning and end of the visit. There shall be no kissing or embracing during the actual visit. Offenders may hold hands with their visitors during the visit; however, offenders shall not touch any other part of the visitor's body. Children too small to sit in a chair by themselves may sit on the offender's lap during the visit."

This section has been revised to state:

"Incarcerated individuals and visitors may be physically separated. In those cases where an incarcerated individual and a visitor are permitted contact, the incarcerated individual and visitor may be permitted to shake hands and/or embrace at the beginning and end of the visit. There shall be no embracing nor hand holding during the actual visit. Children too small to sit in a chair by themselves may sit on the visitor's lap during the visit."

Additionally, if family or friends wish to purchase vending machine items for the incarcerated individual they are visiting, they may do so at the end of the visit. These items will not be consumed during the visit. A maximum of 3 unopened purchased items may be taken back to the housing unit upon the incarcerated individual leaving the visiting area.

The minimum age of visitors shall be 3 months. Children participating in the Officer Breann Leath Memorial Maternal-Child Health Unit at the Indiana Women's Prison under the age of 3 months shall not participate in physical contact visits.

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These changes will be incorporated into Policy and Administrative Procedure 02-01-102 during the revision process currently underway. Facilities shall update their operational procedures and post orders to reflect this change.

This Executive Directive also authorizes a revision to Health Care Services Directive 2.18A, "Officer Breann Leath Memorial Maternal-Child Health Unit," to reflect the visitation change. It is applicable only to the Indiana Women's Prison.

If there are any questions regarding this Executive Directive, please contact the assigned Executive Director of Adult Facilities.

signature on file

Robert E. Carter, Jr. Commissioner