



STATE OF WASHINGTON
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July 30, 2010

TO: All MCC Offenders and Visitors

FROM: Scott Frakes, Superintendent

SUBJECT: VISITING PROGRAM

The visiting program is an important part of building and maintaining community ties. Visiting is a family focused program. The modest dress code and high expectations for respectful behavior are part of creating a healthy family atmosphere. I expect staff to enforce the dress code, and to address any inappropriate behavior in the visit room. I expect staff to treat offenders and visitors with respect at all times, but being respectful does not mean ignoring the rules.

There has been an increase in disrespectful behavior towards staff, including instances where visitors have directed profanity at staff and acted in a threatening manner. I will not allow offenders, visitors or staff to be treated with disrespect. Access to the visiting program is a privilege. Failing to follow the published rules or acting inappropriately may result in the termination of a visit and/or suspension of visiting privileges. I consider suspension of an individual's visits to be a serious action, but I will take that action to protect the quality of the program.

I recognize that I'm sending this message to everyone to address the behavior of a few visitors. I know that coming to prison to visit is a challenging, sometimes frustrating, sometimes overwhelming experience. What seems normal and understandable to me and my staff is far from clear to a citizen (visitor) entering our doors. I'm asking everyone involved in visiting to work together to improve the program. The MCC Family Advisory Council is working hard to bring concerns forward, and help us find ways to improve the program.

I want visitors to have a safe and enjoyable visit experience at MCC. If you have concerns I encourage you to speak with Sergeants Palmer or Pinkman, or Lieutenant White. You can also write to CPM David Bustanoby at the address at the top of the page. Offenders that have issues or complaints about the visiting program are encouraged to talk to staff, or utilize the offender grievance program.

Thank you.

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