# STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



# **POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

ATTACHMENTS / FORMS:

(A.) Notice Of Release To Supervision.

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TITLE:

Offender Reentry Program

APPROVED BY:

DATE:

02/24/17

Dean R. Williams, Commissioner

#### **AUTHORITY / REFERENCES:**

22 AAC 05.155 AS 44.28.030 AS 33.05.010 DOC P&P 700.01 AS 33.16.180 DOC P&P 902.03

AS 33.30.011 AS 33.30.021

### POLICY:

- I. It is the policy of the Department of Corrections (DOC) to have in place procedures and conditions that provide for a seamless plan of services and supervision that encompass the reentry process from remand through the institutional and community phases of reentry.
- II. It is also the policy of the Department to provide reentry interventions and services that continue through an offender's transition, reintegration and aftercare in the community.
- III. The Department shall develop an Offender Management Plan (OMP) for all offenders sentenced to 30 days or more. The OMP shall be based upon the offender's assessed risks, needs and strengths.
- IV. Offenders who score low on the Department's Risk / Needs / Strengths Assessment Instrument and do not otherwise indicate a need for substance abuse, educational or vocational programming will not be referred to programming.

## **APPLICATION:**

This policy and procedure will apply to all Department employees and all prisoners.

# **DEFINITIONS:**

As used in this policy, the following definitions shall apply:

#### Field Probation Officer (FPO):

The FPO is responsible for case management of all offenders released into the community on probation and /or parole supervision. The officer is responsible for ensuring compliance with conditions of release and the reentry process as indicated in the OMP.

#### **Institutional Probation Officer (IPO):**

The IPO is responsible for case management of all incarcerated offenders. The officer is responsible for

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processing classifications, furlough applications, parole reports, release planning, and the oversight and development of the Offender Management Plan (OMP).

#### **Notice of Release (NOR):**

The Notice of Release to supervision is a document prepared by the Institutional Probation Officer for all offenders releasing to formal community supervision. The document is prepared at least 30 days prior to an offender's release from custody, or 90 days prior to release of sex offenders.

# Offender Management Plan (OMP):

An offender-specific supervision and services plan developed with the offender and probation staff that is based on the assessment of an offender's risks / needs and strengths which detail the offenders programming, supervision and reentry expectations. The OMP includes a written institutional plan (stored in the Department's offender management database) as well as a reentry plan, and is designed to assist the offender by identifying and addressing specific criminogenic needs that are a barrier to behavioral change and successful transition from confinement to integration to the community.

# **Offender Reentry Program:**

A comprehensive three-phased approach to offender management and reentry services. This three-phased approach consists of initial screening, assessment and referral to inmate programming (Phase One), program completion, release preparation and planning (Phase Two), and release to community supervision, services and ultimately discharge from supervision (Phase Three).

#### **Reentry:**

The evaluation, planning, and programming conducted, along with the support services provided, to prepare and assist offenders to return safely to the community and successfully discharge from supervision.

#### **Reentry Provider:**

A community-based group of agencies and / or individuals formally or informally organized to address the programming services and supervision needs for offenders as part of the State's prisoner reentry framework.

#### **Risk / Needs / Strengths Assessment Instrument:**

An objective validated assessment instrument that measures an offender's risk to reoffend and identifies the criminogenic needs that are associated with the management and reduction of offender risk.

# Risk / Needs / Strengths Screening Instrument:

An objective validated screening version of the department's full assessment instrument that provides for initial screening of risk, need and strengths.

# **PROCEDURES:**

The Offender Reentry Program shall consist of a three (3) phase approach:

A. Phase One (1) shall address assessment, classification, and programming:

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- 1. Within the first 24 hours of admission all newly remanded offenders shall receive an initial Mental Health / Medical screening, and will be considered for eligibility for Community Residential Center (CRC) placement.
- 2. Within five (5) days of remand all offenders shall receive an initial classification pursuant to DOC P&P 700.01, Prisoner Classification, to determine each offender's housing by custody placement. If identified during the initial classification, they will be referred to education and substance abuse to determine placement need and additional services, which may include parenting for offenders with children under the age of 18, GED / ABE services for offenders without a high school diploma.
- 3. All pre-trial programming placements are reserved for those un-sentenced offenders who are courtordered, or have been recommended for treatment by the Parole Board. All other offenders may access available programming if space is available.
- 4. All offenders sentenced to 30 or more days, will receive the Department's identified initial Risk / Needs / Strengths screening at the time of designation
- 5. All male offenders currently incarcerated on a sex offense, except Child Pornography and Statutory Rape shall receive the Department approved sex offender assessment tool within 30 days of arrival at their designated institution. Offenders scoring medium or higher on the sex offender assessment shall be referred to sex offender management programming. All male sex offenders, except Child Pornography and Statutory Rape, who score medium risk or higher on the initial Risk / Needs / Strengths screening instrument shall be referred to the education department to determine placement need for the Cognitive / Behavioral and / or Anger Management Programs.
- 6. All offenders who scored medium risk or higher on the initial Risk / Needs / Strengths screening instrument shall receive the department's full Risk / Needs / Strengths assessment within 30 days of arrival at their designated institution. Offenders who score low-moderate or higher on this instrument shall be referred to the education department, which shall administer additional assessments to determine if there is a need for placement in the Cognitive / Behavioral and / or Anger Management programs. Offenders with current or untreated substance abuse issues shall be referred for substance abuse screening and referral.
- 7. The OMP shall be initiated within 30 days of arrival at designated institution and provided to the offender within 90 days of sentencing. The OMP shall also be updated as appropriate until the offender transitions to community supervision. The IPO shall use the Risk / Needs / Strengths assessment to begin the development of each individual OMP. The OMP shall include:
  - a. Risk / Needs / Strengths screening / assessment results, which shall be completed within 30 days of arrival at designated institution;
  - b. Sex offender risk assessment if there is a current sex offense, which shall be completed within 30 days of arrival at designated institution;
  - c. Other assessment results (e.g. education, career compatibility and vocational interests, anger management, substance abuse, etc.), which shall be completed within 90 days of arrival at

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designated institution;

- d. Referrals, start dates, progress notes and pre-test scores;
- e. If the offender has children 18 years or younger, referral to parenting class; and
- f. Post-test scores for completed programs, completion dates and program summary notes for completed programs.
- B. Phase Two (2) consists of release planning and preparation:

The OMP shall be updated at least 90 days before an offender's release date and shall be updated prior to an offender's release and / or placement on furlough or Electronic Monitoring (EM). The updated OMP shall include:

- 1. Summary of treatment programs / services completed;
- 2. Summary of treatment or counseling programs / services that continue to be needed;
- 3. Summary of community services and programming needed to include reentry providers, services and programming;
- 4. A community re-entry plan that shall include Risk / Strengths / Needs in the following areas:
  - a. Housing;
  - b. Employment or alternative means of support;
  - c. Positive social support;
  - d. Family reunification;
  - e. Substance abuse or other treatment needs;
  - f. Education or job training services;
  - g. Finances;
  - h. Legal obligations;
  - i. Transportation;
  - j. Medical / Mental Health support;
  - k. Identification: and
  - 1. Other, as indicated by the Risk / Needs / Strengths assessment.
- 5. Description of specific programming and service activities that need to occur in order to help ensure a successful community reintegration; and
- 6. All offenders releasing to formal community supervision will receive a *Notice Of Release (NOR) To Supervision* (Attachment A) 30 days prior to release of the offender, unless the offender is classified as a sex offender in which case it shall be completed 90 days prior to release. The *NOR* shall be updated in the DOC offender management system.
- C. Phase Three (3) consists of release and supervision services:

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- 1. It involves immediate and short-term enrollment and / or referrals for services and also involves long-term stabilization of the offender and the development or establishment of relationships with appropriate community support networks.
- 2. For offenders being released to community supervision this phase is pursuant to DOC P&P 902.03, Classification And Supervision Standards, and includes:
  - a. FPO support and supervision;
  - b. OMP review;
  - c. Updated Risks / Needs / Strengths assessment (to be completed within 90 days following release to community supervision);
  - d. Completion of court and / or Parole Board requirements; and
  - e. Enrollment in community provider and after-care services.

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