



POLICY STATEMENT
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania • Department of Corrections

Policy Subject: Human Resources and Labor Relations		Policy Number: 4.1.1
Date of Issue: April 14, 2025	Authority: Signature on File Dr. Laurel R. Harry	Effective Date: April 28, 2025

I. AUTHORITY

The Authority of the Secretary of Corrections to direct the operation of the Department of Corrections is established by Sections 201, 206, 506, and 901-B of the Administrative Code of 1929, 71 P.S. §§61, 66, 186, and 310-1, Act of April 9, 1929, P.L. 177, No. 175, as amended.

II. PURPOSE

It is the purpose of this policy to identify the basic responsibilities, requirements, and procedures that establish a system for all personnel and labor relations issues and to ensure compliance with all Commonwealth personnel/labor relations directives and ensure the programs are administered consistently by the Department's Human Resource Office.

III. APPLICABILITY

This policy is applicable to all facilities under the jurisdiction of the Department.

IV. DEFINITIONS

All pertinent definitions are contained in the confidential procedures manual for this policy.

V. POLICY

It is the policy of the Department to identify and address all personnel and labor relations issues that exist within the Department and to ensure compliance with all Commonwealth

personnel/labor relations programs. This policy establishes the agency's staffing, recruiting, promotion, benefits, and review of employee practices. Functional areas include, but are not limited to, the following:¹

- A. employee relations;
- B. transaction and payroll;
- C. employee benefits;
- D. recruitment and staffing; and
- E. classification and pay.

VI. PROCEDURES

All pertinent procedures and/or terms are contained in the procedures manual for this policy.

VII. SUSPENSION DURING AN EMERGENCY

In an emergency or extended disruption of normal facility operation, the Secretary/designee may suspend any provision or section of this policy for a specific period.

VIII. RIGHTS UNDER THIS POLICY

This policy does not create rights in any person nor shall it be interpreted or applied in such a manner as to abridge the rights of any individual. This policy shall be interpreted to have sufficient flexibility to be consistent with law and to permit the accomplishment of the purpose(s) of the policies of the Department.

IX. RELEASE OF INFORMATION AND DISSEMINATION OF POLICY

A. Release of Information

1. Policy Statement

This policy document is public information and may be released upon request.

2. Procedures Manuals, Appendixes, and Attachments (if applicable)

The related procedures manuals, appendixes and attachments (elements) for this policy are public information and are releasable upon request unless designated by the Department as confidential. Confidential elements are not public information and shall not be released in entirety or in part, without the prior approval of the Secretary/designee. Procedures manuals or other elements which are not further restricted, may be released to any Department employee on an as needed basis.

¹ 11-CTA-1C-01, 5-ACI-1C-01, 4-ACRS-7E-07

B. Distribution of Policy

1. Public and General Distribution

Department policies which are not designated as confidential or further restricted, shall be made available to the public through the Department's public web site.

2. Distribution to Staff and Other Government Agencies

All Department policies and related elements, which are not further restricted, shall be available to all Department members. It is the responsibility of those individuals within the Department, receiving policies through general distribution, to ensure that each employee expected or required to perform the necessary procedures/duties has access to the policy and procedures. Distribution of confidential policies or elements to other government agencies is subject to the approval of the Secretary/designee.

X. SUPERSEDED POLICY AND CROSS REFERENCE**A. Superseded Policy**

1. Department Policy

4.1.1, Human Resources and Labor Relations issued July 29, 2024 by Secretary Dr. Laurel R. Harry.

2. Facility Policy and Procedures

This document supersedes all facility policy and procedures on this subject.

B. Cross Reference(s)

1. Administrative Manuals

- a. DC-ADM 008, Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)
- b. 1.1.4, Centralized Clearances
- c. 1.6.1, Equal Employment Opportunity
- d. 1.6.2, Sexual Harassment
- e. 5.1.1, Staff Development and Training
- f. 6.2.4, Uniform Regulations
- g. 6.3.12, Drug Interdiction
- h. 6.7.2, Special Response Teams

2. ACA Standards

- a. Adult Correctional Institutions: 5-ACI-1A-08, 5-ACI-1B-17, 5-ACI-1C-01, 5-ACI-1C-06, 5-ACI-1C-07, 5-ACI-1C-08, 5-ACI-1C-11, 5-ACI-1C-13, 5-ACI-1C-14, 5-ACI-1C-15, 5-ACI-1C-22, 5-ACI-1C-24, 5-ACI-1C-25, 5-ACI-2F-03, 5-ACI-5C-11
- b. Adult Community Residential Services: 4-ACRS-2A-03, 4-ACRS-2A-06, 4-ACRS-7B-04, 4-ACRS-7B-05, 4-ACRS-7D-27, 4-ACRS-7E-01, 4-ACRS-7E-02, 4-ACRS-7E-03, 4-ACRS-7E-05, 4-ACRS-7E-07, 4-ACRS-7E-08, 4-ACRS-7E-11
- c. Adult Probation and Parole Field Services: 4-APPFS-1C-04, 4-APPFS-3A-11, 4-APPFS-3D-15, 4-APPFS-3E-02, 4-APPFS-3E-03, 4-APPFS-3E-04, 4-APPFS-3E-10
- d. Correctional Industries: 2-CI-6C-1, 2-CI-6D-3
- e. Correctional Training Academies: 1-CTA-1C-01, 1-CTA-1C-03, 1-CTA-1C-03-1, 1-CTA-1C-06, 1-CTA-2D-03

3. PREA Standards 28 C.F.R.

115.17, 115.34, 115.76, 115.217



PROCEDURES MANUAL
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania • Department of Corrections

Policy Subject: Human Resources and Labor Relations		Policy Number: 4.1.1
Date of Issue: April 14, 2025	Authority Signature on File Dr. Laurel R. Harry	Effective Date: April 28, 2025
<p>Release of Information:</p> <p>Policy Statement: The Policy Statement is public information and may be released upon request.</p> <p>Procedures Manuals, Appendixes, and Attachments (if applicable): The related procedures manuals, appendixes and attachments (elements) for this policy are public information and are releasable upon request unless designated by the Department as confidential. <u>Confidential elements are not public information and shall not be released in entirety or in part, without the prior approval of the Secretary/designee.</u> Procedures manuals or other elements which are not further restricted, may be released to any Department employee on an as needed basis.</p>		
<p>Procedures Development: All required procedures will be developed in compliance with the standards set forth in this manual and/or the governing policy. These standards may be exceeded, but in all cases these standards are the minimum standard that must be achieved. In the event a deviation or variance is required, a written request is to be submitted to the appropriate Executive Deputy Secretary/Regional Deputy Secretary and the Bureau of Standards, Audits, Assessments, and Compliance for review and approval prior to implementation. Absent such approval, all procedures set forth in this manual must be met.</p>		

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BULLETIN
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania • Department of Corrections

Policy Subject:

Human Resources and Labor Relations

Policy Number:

4.1.1 - 1

Section 4 – Resignations in Lieu of Discharge

Section 6 – The Pennsylvania Public Employee Relations Act

~~Section 7 – Standardization of Pre-Disciplinary Conferences (PDC)~~

Original Issue Date:

Section 4 – Issued 1/30/2008, Effective 2/7/2008

Section 6 – Issued 6/16/2005, Effective 6/23/2005

~~Section 7 – Issued 2/10/2014, Effective 2/17/2014~~

Date of Issue:

January 20, 2015

Authority:

Signature on File

John E. Wetzel

Effective Date:

January 22, 2015

The purpose of this bulletin is to address Human Resource and Labor Relations issues impacted by the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA).

Section 4 – Resignations in Lieu of Discharge

Subsection A.2. shall now read:

2. Requests for resignation in lieu of discharge for employees charged with violations of the Governor's Code of Conduct, employees in the appointment probationary period, or employees determined to be involved in sexual activity with inmate, shall not be approved. However, the Director, BHR, (no designee) shall consider exceptions in consultation with the Executive Deputy Secretary and the Office of Administration. The Department shall code the record of an employee's separation appropriately to alert agencies when hiring to evaluate the individual's previous state employment to better assess the appropriateness of rehiring. This is not intended to preclude employees, once terminated, from being re-hired; it is intended to ensure that the hiring agency has access to all the information necessary to make an informed judgment in the best interest of the Commonwealth. ***All resignations in lieu of discharge cases related to violations of inmate sexual abuse or sexual harassment of inmates shall be reported to the Office of Special Investigations and Intelligence (OSII) to determine if the activity is criminal in nature. If the violation is determined to be criminal, OSII shall report the violations to law enforcement agencies and to any relevant licensing bodies in accordance with PREA Standard §115.76 (d).***

Section 6 – The Pennsylvania Public Employee Relations Act

Subsection D.2.(e)(5) shall now read:

- (5) ***All dismissal cases related to violations of inmate sexual abuse or sexual harassment of inmates shall be reported to the Office of Special Investigations and Intelligence (OSII) to determine if the activity is criminal in nature. If the violation is determined to be criminal, OSII shall report the violations to law***

enforcement agencies and to any relevant licensing bodies in accordance with PREA Standard §115.76 (d).

Section 7 – Standardization of Pre-Disciplinary Conferences

~~Subsections F.10. & 11. shall now read:~~

- ~~10. Inmate Sexual Abuse: In accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003, Standard §115.76 (b), termination shall be the presumptive disciplinary sanction for staff who have engaged in sexual abuse.~~**
- ~~11. In accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 1993, Standard §115.76 (c), disciplinary sanctions for violations of agency policies related to sexual abuse or sexual harassment (other than actually engaging in sexual abuse) shall be commensurate with the nature and circumstances of the acts committed, the staff member's disciplinary history, and the sanctions imposed for comparable offenses by other staff with similar histories.~~**

Section 1 – Organization of Human Resources and Labor Relations

A. Divisions

The Bureau of Human Resources (BHR) is divided into three divisions (Workforce Management, Employee Services and Labor Relations), which are responsible for various Commonwealth Human Resource programs as outlined on the **Table of Organization (Attachment 1-A)**.

1. A Division Chief heads each division and reports directly to the Director of the BHR.
2. The Workforce Management Division is divided into two sections that are headed by Section Supervisors who report to the Division Chief. These sections include the ***Classification, Placement and Recruitment Section and the Special Projects Section.***
3. The Employee Services Division is divided into two sections that are headed by Section Supervisors who report to the Division Chief. These sections include the ***Employee Services Section and the Employee Systems Section.***
4. The Labor Relations Division is ***divided into two sections that are headed by Section Supervisors who report to the Division Chief. These sections include the Eastern Region Section and the Western Region Section.***

B. Functional Statement

The BHR establishes overall policy and procedures for implementing the Commonwealth's and the Department's Human Resource programs in the areas of classification and pay, recruitment and retention, employee benefits, personnel data maintenance, timekeeping, payroll, leave management, employee performance evaluation, organizational planning, and labor relations. The BHR also provides guidance on the management of Human Resources to the Secretary and other senior staff of the Department.

C. Responsibilities

1. Director
 - a. The Director of the BHR is responsible for the overall direction of the Bureau in carrying out the mission of the Department in the area of Human Resources programs.
 - b. The Director supervises a Central Office Staff and provides guidance on Human Resources management issues to Executive Staff, Facility Staff, Field Human Resource Offices (FHRO), and other senior staff of the Department.
 - c. The Director reports to the Deputy Secretary for Administration.

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Section 1 – Organization of Human Resources and Labor Relations

- d. The Director is responsible for the formulation and distribution of the semi-annual Human Resources Activity Report. The report shall include information regarding the following topics, but may contain more information:
- (1) authorized complement and vacancies;
 - (2) average complement distribution;
 - (3) filled corrections officer positions by class;
 - (4) total staff to inmate population;
 - (5) corrections officer to inmate population;
 - (6) ***Corrections Officer Trainee (COT) physical/medical testing process;***
 - (7) ***new hire appointment packages;***
 - (8) separation transactions;
 - (9) overtime by facility;
 - (10) working out of class;
 - (11) sick leave usage;
 - (12) disability claims and costs;
 - (13) ***EPR Timeliness Report;***
 - (14) ***time & attendance errors;***
 - (15) arrests by facility;
 - (16) discipline by facility;
 - (17) first step grievances; and
 - (18) area grievance committees.

2. Division Chief

- a. A Division Chief, who maintains a separate office and support staff, manages each Division.

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- b. The Division Chief reports directly to the Director. Division Chiefs are responsible for various aspects of the operation of the BHR in their assigned personnel program areas.

3. Workforce Management

- a. Under the direction of the Division Chief, the Workforce Management Division is divided into the following two sections:
 - (1) Classification, **Placement** and Recruitment Section; and
 - (2) **Special Projects Section.**
- b. These sections are responsible for directing, supervising and coordinating the Commonwealth and Department's Human Resource programs in the areas of position classification, **employee placement, statewide recruitment**, staff and workforce analysis, succession planning, personnel, **non-civil service**, and civil service rules and regulations. This Division provides ongoing direction and guidance to all facility Human Resource offices.

4. Employee Services Division

- a. Under the direction of the Division Chief, the Employee Services Division is divided into the following two sections:
 - (1) Employee **Services** Section; and
 - (2) **Employee Systems** Section.
- b. These sections are responsible for directing, supervising and coordinating the Commonwealth and Department's Human Resource programs in the areas of personnel transactions,¹ employee benefits, State Employees' Assistance Program, Human Resource Information Systems, personnel data maintenance, timekeeping, payroll, and leave management. This Division provides ongoing direction and guidance to all facility Human Resource offices.

5. Labor Relations Division

- a. Under the direction of the Division Chief, **the Labor Relations Division is divided into the following sections:**
 - (1) **Eastern Region Section; and**
 - (2) **Western Region Section.**

¹ 4-ACRS-7E-07, 4-ACRS-7E-11

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- b. These sections are responsible for planning, organizing, and directing matters related to the Labor Relations functions for the Department. This Division participates in formulating the Department's position during contract negotiations, serves on negotiations teams, develops answers to Departmental grievances and manages the Accelerated Grievance Program (AGP). This Division also provides guidance and direction to all facilities regarding disciplinary procedures and conducts grievance hearings. The Division also serves as a consultant on arbitration cases and provides testimony as necessary.
- c. The Labor Relations Division provides technical assistance, advice, and strategy to Central Office, Executive Staff, Facility Managers, and Deputies for Facilities Management, Deputies for Centralized Services, Human Resource Officers, **FHROs**, and other management personnel on labor relations issues.

Section 2 - Code of Ethics

This section establishes the processes and procedures for orienting new employees to the policies and procedures of the Department.¹

A. Responsibilities

1. The Department shall provide a copy of the Code of Ethics to all employees at the time of employee orientation.² An employee is any person whether full-time or part-time, permanent or temporary, hired by the Department as a Commonwealth employee.
2. Facility Personnel Officers shall ensure that new employees read the Department's Code of Ethics and sign a receipt ([See Sample, Attachment 2-A, DC-173, Receipt of Code of Ethics Handbook](#)) stating that he/she has read and understands the Code of Ethics. A copy of this receipt shall be placed in the employee's Official Personnel File.

B. Code of Ethics

The Department's Code of Ethics is contained in the [DC-174, Code of Ethics](#) booklet.

¹ 1-CTA-1C-01, 3-ACRS-1C-03

² 4-4069

Section 3 - Employee Arrests - Felony, Misdemeanor, or Summary Offenses

Employees charged with criminal misconduct shall be dealt with appropriately. ***This will be*** dependent upon the seriousness of the charge ***and any*** resultant violations of the Department of Corrections Code of Ethics, as well as the Governor's Code of Conduct.

All Department of Corrections employees are cross checked against the Justice Network (JNET) system on a daily basis to identify employees that have had negative contact with law enforcement (i.e., any criminal citation, criminal charge, arrest, etc.).

It is the employee's responsibility to report any negative contact with law enforcement (i.e., any criminal citation, criminal charge, arrest, etc.) to his/her supervisor, security, or designee. The employee should report such contact as soon as possible or no later than his/her next scheduled work day.

No form of approved leave, paid or unpaid, is permitted for employees who are incarcerated, including but not limited to house arrest and electronic monitoring. Facilities/Bureaus should initiate their review and investigation in advance of the sentencing date.

Additionally, employee arrests must be reported to the respective Regional Deputy Secretary as soon as the facility is made aware of the arrest.

A. Procedures for Employee Arrests – Felonies and Work-Related Criminal Misconduct

The following table outlines the required procedures and the individual(s) responsible for carrying out the procedures for employee arrests for felonies and work-related criminal misconduct.

Action By	Action
Facility Manager/Regional Director/Bureau Director	If an employee is charged with criminal misconduct, which either constitutes a felony or is directly work-related, the employee must be immediately suspended pending investigation <i>following a Pre-Suspension Hearing (refer to Section 5 of this procedures manual)</i> , in accordance with the Governor's Code of Conduct, Executive Order 1980-18, and the Department of Corrections Code of Ethics. <i>For work-related summary offenses, contact the Director, Bureau of Human Resources (BHR), prior to taking any action.</i>

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Facility Manager/Regional Director/Bureau Director	Submit Employee Arrest Report (Attachment 3-A) to the respective Regional Deputy Secretary, with a copy to the Office of Administration (OA) (RA-Investigations@pa.gov), within 12 business days of notification of the arrest, as well as final disposition and discipline administered, if any. If a hearing is pending, OA should be notified and the agency should follow up with OA within 12 business days of the hearing. Also copy the Director of the BHR and the Chief of the Labor Relations Division. Action taken will normally reflect that the employee was suspended pending investigation and the date of the action.
Chief, Labor Relations Division	Provide JNET notifications to the Facility Manager/Regional Director/Bureau Director. Track and monitor arrests to ensure necessary reports are received and provided to OA as required.
Supervisor/Facility Security Office	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigate the matter fully, contacting all the necessary officials/parties needed to obtain the full facts of the situation and resultant charges. 2. Review findings with the Facility Manager, Regional Director, or Bureau Director.
Facility Manager/Regional Director/Bureau Director	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proceed in accordance with Section 7 of this procedures manual regarding Pre-Disciplinary Conferences (PDC). 2. Submit Employee Arrest Report to the respective Regional Deputy Secretary, with a copy to the OA (RA-Investigations@pa.gov), indicating final disposition of the criminal charges, as well as any administrative action taken. Also copy the Director of the BHR and Chief of the Labor Relations Division.

B. Procedures for Employee Arrests - Misdemeanors and Summary Offenses

The following table outlines the required procedures and the individual(s) responsible for carrying out the procedures for employee arrests for misdemeanors and summary offenses.

Action By	Action
Facility Manager/ Regional Director/ Bureau Director	<i>Submit Employee Arrest Report to the respective Regional Deputy Secretary, with a copy to the OA (RA-Investigations@pa.gov), within 12 business days of notification of the arrest, as well as final disposition and discipline administered, if any. If a hearing is pending, OA should be notified and the agency should follow up with OA within 12 business days of the hearing. Also copy the Director of the BHR and the Chief of the Labor Relations Division.</i>
Supervisor/ Facility Security Office	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Investigate the matter fully, contacting all the necessary officials/parties needed to obtain the full facts of the situation and resultant charges. 2. Review findings with the Facility Manager, Regional Director, or Bureau Director.
Facility Manager / Regional Director/ Bureau Director	Determine which course of action should be pursued: a fact-finding conference or a PDC. (Normally a fact-finding conference would be held for first time summary or misdemeanor offenses. Only if unusual circumstances exist [publicity, injuries, etc.] or the employee is charged with a subsequent offense should a PDC be considered and then it would be in accordance with the Department Directive on such hearings.) Provide decision to the supervisor.
Supervisor/ Facility Security Office	<p>Schedule a fact-finding meeting with the employee. During the fact-finding meeting, the following points are to be covered:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Verify with the employee charges that have been filed. 2. Obtain the employee's explanation of the situation. 3. Ascertain the status of the situation. 4. Put the employee on notice that immediately after the disposition of the charge(s), he/she is to notify you of the outcome of the charges in writing. 5. <i>If there is a weapons restriction (Brady Bill Disqualifier) or any other restriction impacting the employee's ability to perform the essential functions of his/her position, meet with and notify the employee of the need to resolve the restrictions and issue the Arrest or PFA Initial Letter (Attachment 3-B). Provide a time limit for resolution of five work days. Do not assign the employee to a post or Special Team that requires use of a firearm. Notify Chief of Security of Special Team suspension. If the employee fails to resolve the restrictions, meet with the employee for an explanation, then remove him/her from the work place until resolved.</i>

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Action By	Action
<p>Supervisor/Facility Security Office (Continued)</p>	<p><i>The employee may utilize leave to cover the absences in accordance with the Arrest or PFA Second Letter (Attachment 3-C).</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Advise the employee that failure to comply with Step 4 shall be dealt with accordingly. 7. Advise the employee that after the disposition of charges is known, a determination shall be made concerning what action, if any, is appropriate. Consideration shall be given to all relevant factors which includes, but is not limited to: years of service; prior discipline; prior offenses; the nexus between offense and employment; adverse publicity; and the continued ability to effectively discharge his/her duties, in making that determination. 8. Advise the employee that if the disposition of the charges includes incarceration or electronic monitoring, he/she shall not be permitted to perform his/her duties until the terms of the disposition are completed and a PDC held to deal with the impact upon his/her employment. 9. Advise the employee that if the <i>disposition of the charges includes electronic monitoring or house arrest, the employee must follow the procedures outlined in Subsection D. below, to work under the conditions of a work release. If the request for work release is disapproved, a determination will be made if the electronic monitoring/house arrest results in unapproved leave (AW) which could lead to disciplinary action. Advise the employee that if the disposition of the charges includes incarceration, no form of approved leave, paid or unpaid, is permitted and a determination will be made if the incarceration results in unapproved leave (AW) which could lead to disciplinary action.</i> 10. The employee is to be advised that if, after such consideration, discipline appears appropriate, he/she shall be notified in writing of the need for a subsequent meeting, its purpose, place, time, date, and potential outcome (discipline). 11. Prepare a report of the fact-finding meeting to the Facility Manager, Regional Director, or Bureau Director which documents the date, time, and place of the fact-finding meeting, the employee's explanation, the employee's legal status at the time of the meeting, and documentation that steps one through eleven were covered with the employee. Retain a copy of that report. 12. If there is no conviction, a determination shall be made regarding administrative action to be taken, if any.

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Action By	Action
<p>Facility Manger/ Regional Director/ Bureau Director</p>	<p>If the arrest results in a summary or misdemeanor conviction, and there is no nexus between the criminal offense and the employee's job duties then no PDC is necessary. However, the employee should be counseled regarding his/her off-duty conduct and offered assistance through the State Employees Assistance Program (SEAP). For summary and misdemeanor charges, a PDC is only necessary when there is a nexus between the employee's off duty misconduct and his/her employment. Factors to consider in determining whether or not there is a nexus between the criminal misconduct and the employee's job duties include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Was there adverse publicity that injured the reputation of the Department? How? 2. Was the employee named as a Commonwealth or Department employee in any public release? 3. What effect did the misconduct and/or publicity have on the operations of the Department? Was there damage to the Department's reputation? 4. Did the off-duty misconduct breach the trust of the community? Trust of co-workers? 5. Did the off-duty misconduct diminish the credibility of the employee because inmates became aware of the misconduct? 6. Is the employee restricted from performing any essential functions of his/her job? Restricted from performing any duties? 7. Was the misconduct reasonably related to the employee's ability to perform his/her job? 8. Was there any loss of licensure that may affect the employee's ability to perform his/her job? 9. Have co-workers expressed apprehensions of continuing to work with the employee? Would continued employment jeopardize the safety of others? <p>If the disposition of the charges <i>includes electronic monitoring or house arrest, the employee must follow the procedures outlined in Subsection D. below, to work under the conditions of a work release. If the request for work release is disapproved, a determination will be made if the electronic monitoring/house arrest results in unapproved leave (AW) which could lead to disciplinary action. If the disposition of the charges includes incarceration, no form of approved leave, paid or unpaid, is permitted and a determination will be made if the incarceration results in unapproved leave (AW) which could lead to disciplinary action.</i></p>

C. Procedures for Commonwealth Law Enforcement Agency Network (CLEAN)/JNET Notification of Criminal Charges of Staff

- 1. Consistent with the standards of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA): 28 C.F.R. §115.17 Hiring and promotion decisions, the BHR will, upon notification from the Office of Special Investigations and Intelligence (OSII) that an employee has been criminally charged, contact the respective facility with their findings. (28 C.F.R. §115.17[e])**
- 2. Please refer to the procedures table in Subsection A. above for the required procedures and the individual(s) responsible for carrying out the procedures for employees charged with sexually violent crimes.**

D. Procedures for Employee Work Release Requests and Approvals

- 1. Work release approvals apply to those instances where an employee has been sentenced by the courts to serve time in a correctional facility. It also includes situations where an employee has been sentenced to in-home confinement (also known as house arrest) and/or is required to wear an electronic monitoring device.**
- 2. Employees are not entitled to an automatic approval of a work release request. Supervisors and Facility Managers/Bureau Directors do not have the authority to approve any work release request, and must immediately forward any recommendations for approval of such requests to the BHR. Facility Managers/Regional Directors/Bureau Directors do have the authority to disapprove work release requests and must provide notification of such disapproval to the employee and the BHR. Prior to submitting recommendations for approval and before disapproving requests, due diligence must be taken to conduct a thorough investigation to ensure that granting/not granting a work release request is in the best interest of the Agency and the Commonwealth.**
- 3. The following table outlines the required procedures and the individual(s) responsible for carrying out the procedures for Work Release Requests.**

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Action By	Action
<p>Facility Manager/Regional Director/Bureau Director/FHRO/Supervisor/Facility Security Office</p>	<p><i>If the disposition of the charges includes granting a work release by the governing Authority/Jurisdiction, the employee must request permission to work under the conditions of the work release. The employee must provide documented proof of the work release to his/her local Human Resources Office for consideration and the following procedures shall be adhered to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Identify all conditions associated with the work release, including any restrictions that will be placed upon the employee. This includes obtaining documentation about the work release conditions and restrictions, and may require contact with the district attorney, the employee's probation/parole officer, and/or the employee's attorney.</i> <i>Conduct a complete review of the impact of those conditions and restrictions upon the employee's job functions and upon commonwealth operations. The conditions/restrictions must not result in unacceptable impact upon commonwealth operations, such as a requirement that the employee's computer be available for inspection by court officers.</i> <i>Review the employee's personnel records to ensure that he/she reported all criminal charges (both current and past) as required by the Governor's Code of Conduct and internal agency policies.</i>

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Action By	Action
<p>Facility Manager/Regional Director/Bureau Director/FHRO/Supervisor/Facility Security Office</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize the criteria found in Part III of the Governor's Code of Conduct to review the impact of the criminal conviction upon the agency, including the extent to which the employee must deal directly with the public, and the extent to which the public's trust and confidence in the commonwealth would be undermined if the work release were to be approved. • If the work release request is not supported, prepare a memo from the Facility Manager/Regional Director/Bureau Director notifying the employee of the disapproval and the reasons.
<p>Facility Manager/Regional Director/Bureau Director</p>	<p>If the work release request is supported, the following actions need to be taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a memo to the Director of the BHR. This memo should include the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • employee name and job title; • employee work location, including bureau, division, and/or work unit; • length of employment with the Commonwealth, previous discipline history, and performance ratings; • nature of the charges that led to the conviction and incarceration; • previous convictions, including dates and nature of the charges; • projected dates, length, and nature of incarceration; • documentation of the investigation results, including copies of all court documents and analysis of impact of conditions and restrictions; • rationale for agency request for work release approval, including results of the investigation; and • whether there have been previous requests or approvals of work release for the employee.

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Action By	Action
Bureau of Human Resources Director	<p><i>If after the internal review process it is determined that a work release request is not appropriate, prepare a memo notifying the employee of the disapproval and the reasons.</i></p> <p><i>If after the internal review process it is determined that a work release request is appropriate, provide a written request to the OA, Workplace Support Services Division. The request should include the following information:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>all the required information provided by the Superintendent/Regional Director/FHRO of the affected facility; and</i>• <i>written approvals of the agency's chief counsel and agency head by utilizing the Work Release Approval Request (Attachment 3-D).</i> <p><i>Upon review by the OA, the Director of the BHR will be notified regarding the approval/disapproval of the request. Upon such notification, provide notification to the Facility Manager/Regional Director/Bureau Director.</i></p>

Section 4 – Resignations in Lieu of Discharge (RILD)

This section provides procedures to process RILD for Department employees.¹ ***It is not necessary to automatically process an employee's request for resignation upon receipt or to process a separation upon receipt of the State Employee Retirement System (SERS) Agency Notification of Retirement. Management must consider the circumstances under which the employee is submitting the request to resign. It is management's discretion whether or not to accept the resignation, but must do so in writing in accordance with the following procedures.***

A. Approval Process for Resignations in Lieu of Discharge (RILD)

1. The Director/designee, Bureau of Human Resources (BHR), and the Regional Deputy Secretary must approve all RILD in advance. Approval may be verbal with appropriate paperwork to follow. ***For a sample resignation letter, refer to Employee Request for Resignation (Attachment 4-A). For sample acceptance letters, refer to Sample Letter-Acceptance RILD (Attachment 4-B), Sample Letter RILD Acceptance-Pending Investigation for Sexual Misconduct (Attachment 4-C), Sample Letter RILD Acceptance-Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Investigation Ongoing (Attachment 4-D), and Sample Letter RILD Acceptance-PREA Investigation Complete (Attachment 4-E). For a sample denial letter, refer to Sample Denial Letter-RILD (Attachment 4-F).***
2. Requests for RILD for employees charged with violations of the Governor's Code of Conduct, employees in the appointment probationary period, or employees determined to be involved in, ***or being investigated for sexual abuse or sexual harassment of inmates***, shall not be approved. However, the Director, BHR, (no designee) shall consider exceptions in consultation with the ***Regional Deputy Secretary***. The Department shall code the record of an employee's separation appropriately to alert agencies when hiring to evaluate the individual's previous state employment to better assess the appropriateness of re-hiring. This is not intended to preclude employees, once terminated, from being re-hired; it is intended to ensure that the hiring agency has access to all the information necessary to make an informed judgment in the best interest of the Commonwealth.
 - a. ***RILD for PREA-related offenses under Department policy DC-ADM 008, "PREA."***

In the event that a staff member resigns in lieu of discharge for violation of Department policy DC-ADM 008, the BHR shall notify the Office of Special Investigations and Intelligence (OSII) to determine if a potential criminal violation exists. If the violation meets criminal standards, OSII shall refer the matter to the District Attorney's Office that has jurisdiction over the affected facility. Whether or not the matter is referred to the District Attorney's Office, BHR shall notify any relevant licensing bodies. (28 C.F.R. §115.76[d])

¹ 4-4048, 1-CTA-1C-01

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- b. ***For sample letters, please see the appropriate Acceptance Letter samples as referenced in Subsection A.1. above. Additional information on notifying relevant licensing bodies is located in Section 6 of this procedures manual.***
- 3. Once the initial approval is received, a Personnel Action Request (PAR) shall be submitted. The Human Resource Office shall:
 - a. notify Central Office by submitting a PAR with all required documentation attached, to include the following:
 - (1) employee's notice of resignation;
 - (2) management's acceptance of resignation; and
 - (3) a summary of the reasons for the RILD.
 - b. input a separation transaction in SAP after the PAR has been submitted, but no later than the Friday before pay processing; and
 - c. ensure that the separation is coded as "ZH" separation action with the appropriate reason code. The reason code may be changed later if necessary; however, the initial action and reason code must be used to ensure appropriate retirement process. The SAP codes to be used are as follows:
 - (1) 7 – Resign/Contact Former Agency;
 - (2) 23 – Retire/Contact Former Agency (no sick payment); or
 - (3) 24 – Retire/Contact Former Agency (sick payment).

B. Resignations in Lieu of Discharge (RILD) Without Settlement

- 1. Employees under investigation for misconduct frequently decide to voluntarily resign their position prior to the final decision or issuance of the termination letter. While management always reserves the right to refuse the resignation, in most cases it is preferred that the resignation be accepted.
- 2. Often, ***but not always***, the offer to resign is communicated to management through an employee representative. In ***either*** circumstance, the following steps shall be taken:
 - a. require the employee to submit the resignation in writing and immediately acknowledge its acceptance in writing;
 - b. summarize in memorandum format ***for*** the record the circumstances that led to the employee's resignation. Attach any corroborating evidence such as reports, statements, etc., to the memorandum and place in the employee's Official Personnel File; and

- c. ***pre-approval must still be obtained in accordance with Subsection A.2. above for such charges listed in that section and should not be accepted in writing until approval is granted in accordance with Subsection A.2. above.***

3. Submission of proper documentation to the BHR and the processing of the separation of the employee shall be in accordance with **Subsection A.3. above.**

C. Resignations in Lieu of Discharge (RILD) as Part of a Settlement

1. It is not uncommon for an employee representative to negotiate a voluntary resignation on behalf of an employee under investigation for misconduct or an employee who has been, or is about to be, dismissed from employment. The employee representative shall generally advocate that the record be cleared and a reference, if not positive at least neutral, be given to prospective employers. In addition, it is not uncommon for the employer to offer such a suggestion for resolution on these circumstances as well. It is frequently appropriate to settle such matters in this regard.
2. ***In cases where an employee resigns while under investigation for violations of Sexual Abuse or Sexual Harassment policies, any settlement language shall include provisions that permit the employer to report to any prospective institutional employer that the employee resigned during a pending investigation. (28 C.F.R. §115.17[c][2][h]) (28 C.F.R. §115.76[d])***
3. Prior to any agreed upon settlement of the above nature, approval must be received from the Director/designee, BHR. Even though the ability to move fast is essential on striking a settlement, the following guidelines listed below must be adhered to:
 - a. ***pre-approval must still be obtained under Subsection A.2. above for such charges listed in that section, and should not be accepted in writing until approval is granted in accordance with Subsection A.2. above;***
 - b. contact the appropriate staff in the BHR to discuss and obtain approval of any offer made by an employee representative or a contemplated offer that management is considering. Contact may be by email, telephone, facsimile, memorandum, etc.;
 - c. after approval, the settlement must be reduced to writing; and
 - d. ***in order to maintain the ability to share employment information with other Commonwealth agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction when a former employee is being considered for employment after the acceptance of a resignation under these terms, the following language shall be used in settlements where a neutral reference is being agreed upon when the separation from employment is NOT related to a pending investigation for Sexual Abuse or Sexual Harassment policies:***

“Should the Commonwealth be contacted by an external employer regarding the individual’s employment with the Department of Corrections, we agree to

provide a neutral reference indicating only the period of his/her employment and the capacity in which he/she was employed. Further information will only be provided upon receipt of a release form signed by the individual.”

4. Submission of proper documentation to BHR and the processing of the separation of the employee shall be in accordance with **Subsection A.3. above.**

D. Payroll Transaction

If it is determined that the separation transaction shall not update timely, pending an approval of the RILD, the resignation transaction shall be processed through the SAP system using the appropriate reason code for dismissal/removal. After the approval is received from the Director/designee, BHR, the Human Resource Office may update the employment history by processing a change to the reason code on a separation. ***For assistance with the transaction, please contact the Department’s Employee Services Division in the BHR.***

E. Notice from State Employee Retirement System (SERS) of Retirement

1. ***Occasionally, a SERS Agency Notification of Retirement is received when an employee has not submitted a request to retire/resign. In such circumstances, management should not process the separation, but should contact the employee to obtain his/her written request. Upon receipt of the employee’s written request, management can then process the separation if they choose to accept it.***
2. ***If a SERS Agency Notification of Retirement is received and/or the employee has submitted a request to retire/resign but management chooses not to process the separation due to a pending investigation, provide written notification to the employee and copy SERS indicating that the notification was received but, due to a pending investigation, the separation is not being processed at this time. At such time as the investigation is either concluded or it is determined that the separation can be processed, appropriate action can then be taken in accordance with the above procedures.***

Section 5 – Suspension Without Pay for Exempt Employees Under the Fair Labor Standards Act and Suspension Pending Investigation for Exempt and Non-Exempt Employees

A. General

1. The purpose of this section is to outline suspension pending investigation **for exempt and non-exempt employees including** disciplinary suspension requirements for Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)-exempt employees. Most exempt positions are management covered. For explicit interpretation by job classification, please refer to the complete Department Class Code Listing.
2. The Department shall ensure that employee suspensions are consistent with the FLSA. FLSA-exempt employee suspensions without pay shall be for full workweeks, except in cases where the suspension is imposed in good faith for an employee's violation of:
 - a. an infraction of serious written workplace conduct rules applicable to all employees; or
 - b. a safety rule of major significance including those relating to the prevention of serious danger in the workplace or to other employees.
3. ***In deciding to suspend an employee pending investigation, the Department must be able to demonstrate that the "nature of the allegations" are such that there is cause to remove the employee from the institution pending investigation and not that the employee committed the offenses.***
4. For purposes of this policy, a workweek shall be defined as the payroll workweek which commences on Sunday at 12:00 midnight and ends on the following Sunday at 12:00 **midnight**. For an employee assigned to a work schedule that spans midnight, the hours are reported on the day the shift begins.

B. Generally Applicable Workplace Conduct Rules

1. The FLSA regulations, **for exempt employees**, permit suspensions of less than a full workweek for violations of written workplace policies applicable to all employees. This provision applies to generally applicable written work rules which prohibit serious workplace misconduct, which includes, but is not limited to, workplace violence, **sexual abuse**, sexual harassment, substance abuse, internet access policies, Code of Ethics violations, or violations of state or federal law. Discipline for these infractions should be consistent with **Section 6** of this procedures manual.
2. Suspensions, **for exempt employees, that amount to** less than a full workweek are explicitly not permitted for leave abuse or work performance issues that do not constitute serious misconduct. Any questions regarding this provision shall be directed to the Bureau of Human Resources (BHR).

C. Major Safety-Related Infractions

1. The FLSA regulations, **for exempt employees**, permit suspensions of less than a full workweek for infractions of safety rules of major significance. Safety rules of major significance include those rules relating to the prevention of serious danger in the workplace or to other employees. The federal rules provide an example for guidance: rules prohibiting smoking in explosive plants, oil refineries, or coal mines.
2. This provision is to be narrowly construed. Any questions regarding this provision shall be directed to the BHR.

D. Immediate Suspension and Removal from the Workplace

1. ***For all employees, suspension pending investigation should only be considered when the alleged offenses are of such a severe nature that it warrants immediate removal from the workplace.***
 - a. ***An employee must be afforded a brief and informal hearing prior to being suspended pending investigation. In attendance should be the employee assigned to conduct the investigation, the Superintendent/Facility Manager or acting Facility Manager, and another witness, preferably the Field Human Resource Officer. In addition, the employee may request union representation.***
 - b. ***For any employee who is unavailable for the pre-suspension meeting (i.e., incarcerated or refusing to respond to calls from the institution) the employee should be ordered via written notification, with a copy to the local union official, to report to the institution to participate in the meeting. If the employee is incarcerated and prior to ordering the employee to report to the institution to participate in the pre-suspension meeting, attempt to arrange with the local jail to hold the pre-suspension meeting there or via videoconference or telephone.***
 - (1) ***If an employee ignores the written order to attend the meeting, the employee is to be notified in writing that he/she is being suspended pending investigation.***
 - (2) ***The notice should include a summary of efforts to contact the employee, a summary of the allegations against him/her, and that he/she may contact the institution to provide his/her response to the allegations. The Labor Relations Division should be consulted for additional assistance.***
 - c. ***Meeting minutes of the pre-suspension meeting are not required, however, the topics discussed must be documented and should consist of three parts:***
 - (1) ***the investigator will give notice of the allegations against the employee being as specific as possible and clearly relayed that the investigation is ongoing;***

- (2) *the investigator will give an explanation of the evidence giving rise to the allegations; and*
 - (3) *the employee will have the opportunity to respond to the allegations. A written statement should be requested; but a verbal response is acceptable. The employee is under no obligation to present any information at this time.*
- d. *Once the meeting is completed, the Facility Manager/designee will consult the Regional Deputy Secretary to make a determination on whether to suspend the employee pending investigation.*
 - (1) *Notification to the employee may be provided verbally, but must be followed up in writing no later than the following business day utilizing the Sample Suspension Pending Letter (Attachment 5-A).*
 - (2) *The written notification must include summary of the pre-suspension meeting, a review of the issues discussed, and a listing of the attendees. A copy of the letter should also be sent to the Labor Relations Division.*
 - (3) *The written notification must also inform the employee that if the suspension will exceed 91 days, the employee's benefits will end effective the 92nd day. A follow-up notification should be sent a minimum of 30 days prior to the expiration of the 91-day period utilizing the Sample Follow-Up to Suspension Pending Letter (Attachment 5-B).*
 - (4) *If the employee is suspended pending investigation during his/her work shift, he/she should be paid for the remainder of his/her shift. The written notification should state the employee's suspension pending investigation is effective on the date/time he/she was escorted out of the facility and that he/she would be paid for the full shift on that date. The written notification should also state the date the leave without pay is effective, which would be the next scheduled work day.*
- e. *For H-1 employees, if allegations stem from an inmate complaint, the employee must be given written notification of the allegations 24 hours prior to conducting the pre-suspension meeting. This is covered under article 33, section 20 of the collective bargaining agreement. The exception to requirement of the 24-hour notification is when the inmate allegation falls under the purview of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) 28 C.F.R. Part 115.*

NOTE: *If the employee must be removed from the workplace immediately due to the nature of the allegations and a 24-hour notice is not possible, the employee must be served written notice of the allegations prior to removal from the workplace and will continue to be compensated until the pre-suspension meeting can be held, no more than 24 hours later.*

4.1.1, Human Resources and Labor Relations Procedures Manual

Section 5 – Suspension Without Pay for Exempt Employees Under the Fair Labor Standards Act and Suspension Pending Investigation for Exempt and Non-Exempt Employees

2. An FLSA-exempt employee who is placed on an immediate suspension or suspension pending investigation that warrants the immediate removal from the workplace must be suspended with pay during the initial, **partial** workweek of the suspension. If the suspension continues into subsequent workweeks, the subsequent workweeks should be without pay. For example, a Monday through Friday employee who is suspended on a Wednesday, would be suspended with pay for the rest of the workweek. If the suspension continues, it must be for the entire upcoming workweek period (Monday through Friday), with additional whole workweeks thereafter and all such whole workweek suspension time would be without pay, refer to **Exempt Employee Sample Suspension Pending Letter (Attachment 5-C)**.
3. For suspensions of FLSA-exempt employees, annual leave must be deducted for the time suspended with pay **unless the employee has no actual or anticipated leave quota. In such case, the employee will be paid without the use of leave.** In cases in which the employee has insufficient **actual** leave **quota** to cover the suspension, anticipated annual leave should be deducted.
4. Exempt employees are not to be compensated for attending their Pre-Disciplinary Conference (PDC) or attending their administrative fact finding interview if they are currently in a suspended pending status without pay.

E. Attendance and Performance-Related Infractions

In most situations, an **exempt** employee **should not** be suspended **pending investigation** for attendance or performance-related infractions. If, after a PDC, a suspension without pay is decided upon, the suspension may be scheduled appropriately. However, the suspension must be in increments of full workweeks; a Monday through Friday employee must be suspended without pay for the entire Monday through Friday work period (or for additional full workweeks). If a full workweek suspension is not appropriate under the circumstances, another form of discipline should be considered (i.e., alternate discipline, reprimand, etc.).

F. Attorneys, Physicians, Teachers

The FLSA contains a blanket exemption for employees working in these professions. For the purposes of discipline, these employees should continue to be treated as non-exempt.

G. Complaints Regarding Improper Pay Deductions

An FLSA-exempt employee who believes that improper deduction has been made from his/her salary should immediately report this information to his/her direct supervisor or to the BHR. In the event that such a complaint is received, the employee must be provided with an **Improper Pay Deductions Complaint Form (Attachment 5-D)** to document the complaint. The complaint form will be sent immediately to the BHR, which will investigate the complaint. If the investigation reveals that an improper deduction was made, the employee will be reimbursed and any other action necessary to comply with the FLSA rules will be taken. Retaliation against an employee for making a complaint is strictly prohibited.

NOTE: In the event a Civil Service employee is suspended pending investigation, a personnel action must be taken within 60 working days from the date of the suspension unless the investigation is being conducted by an outside agency; however, suspensions pending investigation by outside agencies may be maintained up to 30 working days upon conclusion of the external investigation. Suspensions for Civil Service employees, including suspensions pending internal investigation, shall not exceed 60 working days in a calendar year.

Section 6 - The Pennsylvania Public Employee Relations Act

A. The Pennsylvania Public Employee Relations Act (43 P.C.S.A. §1101.101, P.L. 563, No. 195)

1. Pennsylvania Public Employee Relations Act

The Pennsylvania Public Employee Relations Act (Act 195) and the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board establishes the rights, rules, and conditions under which Pennsylvania public employees may organize and bargain collectively through selected representatives.

2. Right to Organize

Act 195 guarantees the right of employees, with some exceptions, to organize and select a representative of their choice to bargain collectively over hours, wages, and conditions of employment. To protect these rights, the Act made it an Unfair Labor Practice for the employer to do any of the following:

- a. interfere, restrain or coerce employees in their right to organize, form, or join employee organizations for the purpose of collective bargaining;
- b. dominate or interfere with the formation or operation of any employee organization;
- c. discriminate in regard to the hiring or continued employment or any term or condition of employment to encourage or discourage membership in any employee organization;
- d. discharge or otherwise discriminate against an employee because he/she has signed or filed an affidavit, petition, or complaint or given any information or testimony under the Act;
- e. refuse to reduce a collective bargaining agreement to writing and sign such agreement;
- f. refuse to bargain in good faith with an employee representative, which is the exclusive representative of employees in a designated unit;
- g. violate any of the rules and regulations established by the Labor Relations Board regulating the conduct of representation elections;
- h. refuse to comply with binding arbitration award; and
- i. refuse to comply with the requirement to "meet and discuss" with representatives of first line supervisors.

3. Employer/Employee Defined

- a. For state employees, Act 195 identifies the public employer as the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, not individual agencies. Under the Act, the employer is liable for the actions of its "agents." This means the employer may be held responsible for what one of its supervisors does as long as the supervisor was acting in his line of duty. This is true even if the supervisor was not authorized by the employer to perform the particular act by the employer.
- b. An employee, as defined by the Act, is any individual employed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania except elected officials, appointees of the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate, management level employees, and confidential employees. These employees are not permitted to organize and bargain collectively.
- c. First-line supervisors are permitted to form separate units from other employees; however, they do not have full bargaining rights under the Act. They may "meet and discuss" with management on matters affecting hours, wages, and other conditions of employment. When impasses are reached in meet and discuss, the employer's decision is final.
- d. This first-line supervisor concept is unusual in labor relations. First-line supervisors are determined by the Labor Relations Board after hearings in which the Union and employer justify placing employees either into or out of units.

4. Employee Organizing Rights

- a. The Act gives the employee the right to organize and bargain; it insures these rights by identifying those actions that may be unfair practices; it then establishes the ground rules for the conduct of organizing activities.
- b. The employer may not restrain, coerce, or interfere with employees in the exercise of their rights; may not discriminate against employees because of their refusal to engage in such activities or to join the union; may not dominate or assist a labor organization and may not refuse to recognize and bargain with a union duly selected to represent the employees.
- c. "Interference" includes such unfair practices as discrimination, domination, and refusal to bargain. Forbidden practices range from restraining unions from soliciting members to granting wage increases during an organization drive for discouraging employee interest in union membership. The following are other examples of Interference:
 - (1) Solicitation of Members - This usually depends on who is doing the soliciting and distribution of literature; where it takes place, on or off state property; and when it takes place, during or off work hours. An employer may prohibit employees from engaging in union solicitation or distribution of literature during their working time. Generally, an employer may not forbid his employees from distributing literature in non-working areas during non-working time.

- (2) Questioning Employees - An employer may not poll the employees as to their union views unless the purpose of the poll is to prove the union's claim to represent a majority; they are told this is the purpose of the poll; assurance against reprisal is given; the employees are polled by secret ballot; and the employer has not engaged in unfair labor practices or otherwise created a coercive atmosphere.
- (3) Anti-Union Petitions - An employer may not become involved in getting employees to withdraw from a union or circulate an anti-union petition.
- (4) Promises of Wages or Benefits - An employer may not grant or promise increases in wages or benefits at a critical time during union organization drives unless the increases were pre-established and announced before the campaign began.
- (5) Removal of Privileges - When used to discourage union organization, the threat of removal, or removal of privileges shall constitute illegal interference.

5. Determining a Bargaining Unit

- a. Act 195 gives the Labor Relations Board the authority to determine what the appropriate bargaining unit shall be. In making this determination, the Board considers the following criteria:
 - (1) the employees must have an identifiable community of interest;
 - (2) over-fragmentation must be avoided;
 - (3) professional and non-professional employees may not be combined in a single unit unless a majority of the professionals vote for inclusion in the unit; and
 - (4) it shall take into consideration that when the Commonwealth is the employer, bargaining shall be on a statewide basis unless the issues involve working conditions particular to a given governmental employment locale.
- b. In addition to these limitations, the Act requires that certain types of employees be excluded, regardless of the type of unit. These include management level employees and confidential employees who work in the personnel offices of a public employer and have access to information subject to use by the public employees in collective bargaining or in a close continuing relationship with public officers or representatives associated with collective bargaining on behalf of the employer. In addition, first-level supervisors shall not be included with other units of public employees, but shall be permitted to form their own separate units.

6. Elections/Certifications

- a. The Labor Relations Board has the responsibility to conduct an election after they determine a unit is appropriate and an election should be held. The employee

representative receiving a majority of votes cast shall be eligible for certification. All ballots must include a choice of "no representative."

- b. If no objections to the elections are filed, the Board shall then issue a certification of results. The union and the employer both benefit when a representative is certified because:
 - (1) the employer must bargain with the certified union for at least one year;
 - (2) a rival union may not engage in any activity for recognition in the face of the certification;
 - (3) even if the parties do not sign an agreement, another union cannot petition for an election within one year of the date of the election; and
 - (4) if an agreement is signed within a year of certification, it shall usually bar another union's petition during the life of the agreement to a maximum of three years.
- c. If an employee group of the employer feels the organization does not represent the majority of its employees, they may request an election to decertify the representative. This must be supported by a thirty percent showing of interest on behalf of an employee group or a good faith doubt on behalf of the employer.

7. Bargaining

Both the employer and the union representative are obligated to bargain in good faith. The Act requires the two meet at reasonable times to confer over wages, hours and other terms and conditions of employment. The parties may expand bargaining to include other areas, although they are not unlimited in scope; some subjects may not be bargained over by law. Generally, there are three broad categories of bargaining subjects. These are:

- a. Illegal Subjects - demands that are forbidden under the Act. These subjects may not be included in an agreement even if both parties are willing.
- b. Voluntary Subjects - subjects outside the mandatory wages, hours, and conditions. They may be placed on the table for voluntary bargaining and agreement; however, neither party must agree to them.
- c. Mandatory Subjects - subjects that fall within the category of "wages, hours, and other conditions of employment." Examples of these are:
 - (1) discipline;
 - (2) seniority;
 - (3) work schedules; and

(4) leave.

8. Required Negotiator Procedures

When good faith bargaining fails to result in agreement, the Act mandates a procedure to resolve the impasse.

- a. Both parties may voluntarily request mediation after negotiations begins, but in no event later than 150 days prior to the "budget submission date." (For the Commonwealth, the budget submission date is defined by Act 195 as of February 1 of each year.)
- b. Fact finding may begin 21 days after mediation begins, but no later than 130 days before the budget submission date.
- c. Both parties must respond to the recommendations of the fact finder 80 days before the budget submission date.
- d. If the recommendations are not accepted by the parties, they are made known to the public.
- e. Between five and 10 days after publication, the parties shall again inform the fact finder whether they accept the recommendations.
- f. Impasses may be submitted to voluntary binding arbitration at almost any time.

9. Strikes

Strikes by Corrections Officers at prisons are prohibited at any time. In addition, strikes which occur during the impasse procedures detailed above are prohibited. Strikes that occur after all impasse procedures are exhausted shall not be prohibited unless or until the strike creates "a clear and present danger or threat to the health, safety, or welfare of the public." To that point, the public employer can seek injunctive relief from the strike.

B. Administration Agreement

1. The Contract

The Collective Bargaining Agreement (Contract) is a document in which the Commonwealth guarantees, beyond the conditions spelled out by laws and Executive Orders, the over-all conditions of employment.

2. The Supervisor

The supervisor represents management's labor relations' policies to the employees and to the union steward. The supervisor occupies a key position in the administration of the

agreement. Therefore, the actions of the supervisor represent the actions of management to those employees. The importance of this relationship cannot be over-emphasized.

3. The Steward

The steward is selected by employees to represent them in the collective bargaining process.

C. Labor/Management Relations

It is imperative to maintain an exchange of dialogue of information with the various unions representing employees within the Department. This is accomplished through various forums at the local and statewide level which encompasses the following:

1. Local labor/management meetings

- a. Local agenda items are discussed among management (Facility Manager, Deputy Superintendents, Field Human Resource Officer) and local union officers in an attempt to resolve issues.
- b. Minutes of the meeting must be taken. These are to be taken in the form of written notes using a clerical employee. Tape recording devices at local, regional and statewide meet and discuss sessions are not to be used.
- c. Distribution of local labor/management minutes should be to the respective Deputy Secretary, all Facility Managers, the Director of the BHR, and the Chief of the Labor Relations Division.

2. Eastern Joint Area Committee, Western Joint Area Committee, and State Committee Grievance Hearings. (Refer to **Section 8, Standardized Grievance Tracking and Handling**).

3. Regional Labor/Management Meeting

Local union representatives and staff representatives meet with the respective Deputy Secretary and respective Facility Manager/designee to discuss issues that could not be resolved at the local level.

4. Statewide Meet & Discuss

- a. Issues are discussed that could not be resolved at either the regional or local level.
- b. When dealing with all unions, with the exception of PSCOA, the respective Deputy Secretary/designee, the Bureau Director, a representative from the Labor Relations Division, along with local union staff representatives shall be present.

- c. When dealing with the PSCOA on H1 issues, the Secretary, Executive Deputy Secretary, Deputy Secretaries and Facility Managers shall be present, along with local union officials and representatives from PSCOA.

D. Discipline

1. The purpose of discipline is to correct inappropriate behavior. It is not to punish or restate authority. Disciplinary actions should be administered within a reasonable period after the event giving rise to such disciplinary action or knowledge thereof.
2. Employee disciplinary actions are designed to encourage employees to conform to established standards of performance or conduct. It is recommended when dealing with attendance or performance related issues, progressive discipline is used. However, in those instances where the actions of an employee are in violation of a work rule or are serious enough to warrant more severe action, appropriate discipline should be administered on a case-by-case basis. Additionally, strict adherence to progressive discipline during the appointment probationary or contractual probationary period is not mandatory. The five steps of progressive discipline are listed below.

a. Counseling Session

- (1) A counseling session is a pre-disciplinary action. Its purpose is to draw the employee's attention to a problem with the expectation he/she shall correct it without further action or need for discipline. A counseling session should be conducted when the problem or practice becomes obvious.
- (2) The immediate supervisor shall have a face-to-face conference with the employee. The Supervisor should be firm in notifying the employee of the problem and in outlining the expectation(s) regarding correction. However, be positive in approach; allow/encourage the employee to openly discuss the matter and to participate in setting the time frame(s) for realization of correction. Remember, this is intended to apprise the employee of the need for correction in some area of performance. By approaching the matter with a positive attitude, you shall preserve the existent areas of satisfactory performance and realize improvement in the deficient area(s).
- (3) Record of Action
 - (a) Option #1 - Comprehensively reiterate in a memo to the employee the deficiency discussed, the corrections required, the time frames established within which the corrections are to be realized. Remember, a positive attitude/approach was present at the conference, so allow it to show in the memo.
 - (b) Option #2 - Make a comprehensive note (listing the information shown in #1 Option) for your records.

(4) Record Distribution

(a) For Option #1 above - The original memo is given to the employee. A copy shall be put in the supervisory folder.

(b) For Option #2 above - The memo would be put in the supervisory folder.

b. Verbal Reprimand

- (1) A verbal reprimand is the first step in the progressive discipline process. It is used to warn an employee verbally that some action (or lack thereof) or performance on his/her part is unacceptable and that repetition shall result in further disciplinary action. A verbal reprimand is used when the problem or practice dealt with in the counseling session is not corrected within the established time frame(s).
- (2) The immediate supervisor has the authority and responsibility to issue a verbal reprimand to an employee.
- (3) The immediate supervisor should have a face-to-face conference with the employee. The problems are to be outlined and the employee permitted an opportunity to explain his/her action(s), or the lack thereof. Listen first, then discipline only if appropriate.
- (4) The original **Record of Action (Attachment 6-A)** shall be given to the employee. A copy should be placed in the supervisory folder. A copy shall be placed in the employee's Official Personnel File. Other copies are to be distributed per local procedure, where applicable.
- (5) The normal retention period for a verbal reprimand is six months. However, it depends largely on the case particulars, intervening evaluations, **subsequent discipline or misconduct, etc.**

c. Written Reprimand

- (1) A written reprimand is the second step in the progressive discipline process. It is used to warn an employee in writing that some action (or lack thereof) or performance on his/her part is unacceptable and that repetition shall result in further disciplinary action. A written reprimand is used when the verbal reprimand failed to produce correction of the employee problem(s) within the specified time frame.
- (2) The immediate supervisor of the employee has the authority and responsibility for issuing a written reprimand.
- (3) The supervisor should advise the employee of the problem(s) regarding his/her behavior and/or performance. The employee is to then be permitted to fully

explain his/her actions. (The employee's explanation should be considered appropriately in making a final decision.)

- (4) The supervisor should incorporate the essence of the meeting in a memo **(Attachment 6-B)** in which the subject should be "Written Reprimand." The memo should include: (1) a brief description of the facts surrounding the misconduct; (2) indicate when and what previous attempts were made to gain correction of the problem by the employee; (3) specify the correction needed and indicate the time frame for that correction; (4) indicate repetition shall result in further discipline; **(5) information regarding the State Employees Assistance Program (SEAP); and** (6) that a copy of the reprimand shall be placed in the employee's Official Personnel File.
- (5) The employee should receive the original written reprimand. A copy should be retained by the supervisor. A copy will be placed in the employee's Official Personnel File, with additional copies being distributed in accordance with local procedure, where applicable.
- (6) ***While retention for a written reprimand is typically two years, the written reprimand is normally considered current or active for progressive discipline for one year. However, the life span of the action depends largely on the case particulars, intervening evaluation, subsequent discipline or misconduct, etc.***

d. Suspension

The third step in the progressive discipline **process** is suspension. There are **typically** three suspension steps, each being for a greater number of days, in the progressive discipline procedure.

- (1) A suspension is the temporary removal of an employee from the payroll for a specific period to warn the employee that some action (or lack thereof) or performance on his/her part is unacceptable and that repetition shall result in further disciplinary action.
- (2) When the written reprimand (or in the case of a second or third suspension, the prior suspension) failed to produce correction of the employee's problem(s) within the specified time frame, a suspension would be appropriate.
- (3) The immediate supervisor has the responsibility for continually monitoring the employee's action(s)/performance. When it is evident the problem is continuing he/she has the authority to recommend a PDC be convened. (Refer to **Section 7, Standardization of Pre-Disciplinary Conferences**).
- (4) If the employee is suspended, a letter to that effect shall be given to the employee **(Attachment 6-C)**. Copies shall be forwarded by the local Human Resource Office.

(5) ***Suspensions of more than one full pay period will be suspensions 'without benefits.' Suspensions of one full pay period or less, even if they cross a pay period ending date, will be with benefits.***

(6) Suspensions are normally considered current for two years from their effective date. However, the life span of the action depends largely on the case particulars, intervening evaluations, subsequent employee discipline or misconduct, etc.

e. Dismissal

(1) Dismissal is the final step in the progressive discipline process. The purpose of a dismissal is to permanently remove an employee from the payroll. Dismissal is used when the previous suspension actions fail to achieve correction by the employee of his/her unacceptable performance and/or conduct.

(2) The Facility Manager/designee has the authority and responsibility for issuing a dismissal.

(3) If the employee is dismissed, a letter to that effect shall be given to the employee (**Attachment 6-D**) and copies shall be forwarded by the local Personnel Office.

(4) Dismissals are normally considered permanent.

E. Alternate Discipline Program (ADP)

For non-H1 employees, including management, the ADP can be used for attendance and performance related issues for both exempt and non-exempt employees. In addition, the ADP may be used for employees (those at or above pay range 8 and coded exempt in the Commonwealth's Pay Plan) to address discipline for all types of infractions. In place of suspensions, a Level 1 letter (**Attachment 6-E**) and a Level 2 letter (**Attachment 6-F**) must be issued prior to dismissal. It is important to note that prior to the issuance of a Level 1 letter for attendance or performance related issues, a counseling session, verbal reprimand, and a written reprimand should have been given.

F. Due Process

1. Giving an employee the opportunity to fully present his/her explanation concerning problems a supervisor (or other superior) has about his/her performance, attitude, etc. The opportunity is to be given prior to any action being taken. The employee's explanation must be given appropriate consideration in deciding what action is to be taken, discipline or otherwise.
2. Collective bargaining agreements require disciplinary action to be for "just cause." In order to properly determine if "just cause" exists, you must first conduct an investigation of the matter to ascertain the facts. Thereafter, the supervisor (or other superiors, as appropriate) must discuss the matter with the employee. Only after an investigation can "just cause" be properly determined.

3. It applies to all employees for whom disciplinary action is contemplated because of some unacceptable performance, conduct, etc.
4. It is to be provided during a face-to-face meeting. The employee must be given advance notice of the meeting (preferably in writing), its time, date and place, the subject(s) to be discussed, and any other relevant information. It shall be during this meeting that the employee shall be provided an opportunity to explain his/her performance, actions, etc.
5. If, based upon the nature of the offense, the results of the preliminary investigation, the employee's work record and service time, and any prior discipline, it appears the most that would happen is that the employee would be given either a verbal or written reprimand, the immediate supervisor shall chair the meeting. (Whenever possible, the supervisor's immediate superior shall be in attendance.) If based upon the same factors it appears a suspension, demotion, or dismissal was to result, a more formal meeting would take place. This Department terms that meeting a Pre-Disciplinary Conference (PDC), and has established a policy concerning it (refer to **Section 7, Standardization of Pre-Disciplinary Conferences**). Regardless of the name applied to it or who chairs it, the meeting must take place prior to any decision being made as to what action should be taken, disciplinary or otherwise.
6. Although providing an employee with due process is a technical point, it is vitally important if discipline was taken. Failure to provide it may endanger management's defense of that discipline. For example, in one case, an arbitrator found that management had just cause for the discipline, but because they failed to provide the employee with due process in advance of their decision to take such action, he/she overturned the suspension.

G. Union Representation

1. Represented employees are entitled to have a duly designated representative of the Union present on their behalf during many proceedings. The representative can be a local steward up to the Executive Director or President of the Union. Who represents the employee is a decision to be made by or between the employee and the Union.
2. The U. S. Supreme Court in its Weingarten decision, 420 U.S. 251 (1975), gave employees covered by the National Labor Relations Board the right to Union representation whenever they are subject to discipline or can reasonably perceive the threat of discipline. While the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board has not formally adopted that decision, they do consider it when hearing charges brought by Pennsylvania State employees.
3. Any employee of a bargaining unit, which is represented by a union, has the right to union representation, regardless of his/her employment status (trainee, provisional, probationary, permanent, temporary or wage). This right exists even if the employee is not a dues-paying member of the union. However, only representation from the

applicable union must be permitted. PSSU, for example, cannot claim the right to represent an AFSCME covered employee.

4. Any employee has the right to union representation during any meeting where because of the discussions of that meeting and other applicable things, the employee may be disciplined. The right to union representation exists for all counseling sessions, including the 90-day review of sick leave restrictions. Additionally, the right exists for the full range of disciplinary actions, verbal reprimand through, and including dismissal. The right also exists when, during any employer-conducted investigation, an employee is questioned.
5. The employee has the responsibility of arranging representation with the Union. Management should not routinely notify the Union of such meetings unless they have a local practice of doing so because it is the employee's choice to have representation or not. (This is not to be confused with the contractual obligation of management to notify the Unions of demotions, suspensions, and dismissals.)
6. Management has the responsibility for advising the employee of potential discipline in advance of the meeting if possible, thereby providing the employee with an opportunity to arrange representation. Regardless of the level of discipline that may result from the meeting, the employee is to be advised, preferably in writing, of the particulars of the meeting, including the subject(s) to be discussed and any other Information that is appropriate. The last paragraph of that notice should indicate that depending on the information developed during that meeting, the appropriate action should be taken, including possible disciplinary action. Such an advisement fulfills management's responsibility to provide advance notice of potential discipline.
7. The Union is present to advise the employee and to ask clarifying and/or relevant questions on the employee's behalf. They are not, however, there to speak for the employee. Regardless of how many or who the representative(s) are, they are expected to conduct themselves properly.
8. There is no set number of representatives permitted to attend a proceeding. However, you need not provide more than one union steward with leave with pay to attend the meeting. If the number of representatives is unreasonable, you can put a limit on the number. However, it is the Union's right to choose who shall attend, if there is more than one representative present, you can require they designate a spokesperson. However, provided they conduct themselves appropriately, the other representatives should be permitted the opportunity to interact in the proceeding.

H. Appeal Rights

1. Employees may, by virtue of their classification and Civil Service status, have more than one appeal route available to them. As a result, it shall be necessary to determine on an individual-by-individual basis which of the following sets of appeal language must be incorporated in suspension and dismissal letters.
 - i. Civil Service Employees (Management, Supervisory, or Rank and File)

"Your rights in this personnel action are explained in Part C, Appeal Request, Form SCSC-4112, copies of which are attached." **(See Attachment 6-G)**

Management Directive 580.11, Documentation of Classified Service Personnel Actions, requires that two copies of the Appeal Request be furnished to the employee, attached to the suspension or dismissal letter. Either it can be presented personally, in which case a signed, dated acknowledgement of its receipt must be obtained, or through the US Postal Service, in which case it must be sent certified mail, return receipt requested. Regardless which delivery method is used, the acknowledgement/receipt must be maintained, preferably in the Official Personnel File, as documentation of the employee's receipt of the appeal rights and forms.

- ii. Union Represented Employees (Civil Service, Non-Civil Service, Supervisory or Rank and File)

"Your rights in this personnel action are explained in the 'Discharge, Demotion, Suspension, and Discipline Article of the _____ Agreement.' However, the 'Grievance and Arbitration Articles of the _____ Agreement' also provide relevant information concerning your appeal rights."

2. For supervisory employees, Recommendation and Memorandum of Understanding are used rather than Article and Agreement.
3. The Grievance and Arbitration provision specifically advises employees of their appeal rights in case more than one appeal route (Civil Service, PHRC, etc.) is available to them. Therefore, there is no need to include this information in the letter.

Section 7 – Standardization of Pre-Disciplinary Conferences

In the event that an employee's actions may warrant disciplinary action (this includes facility personnel below the classification of Major and Central Office personnel below the classification of Bureau Director/Office Director), the procedures listed below, in addition to the **Investigation/PDC Guidelines (Attachment 7-A)**, and the **Investigation/Fact-Finding Tracking Sheet (Attachment 7-B)**, shall be followed.¹

A. Designation of a Fact-Finder

The Facility Manager/Bureau Director or designee shall assign an appropriate staff member to serve as a fact-finder to conduct a thorough, fair, and timely investigation of the alleged violation of Department policy, procedure, Governor's Code of Conduct, and/or the Code of Ethics. The fact-finder must be a staff member who was not involved in the alleged incident/issue.² ***For alleged violations of Department policy DC-ADM 008, "Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA)," the fact-finder shall be qualified to conduct sexual abuse investigations through the completion of the Department's specialized investigator's training. (28 C.F.R. §115.34)***

B. Fact-Finder's Actions

The fact-finder shall conduct a fact-finding by:

1. Investigating the matter in a thorough, fair, and timely manner. The fact-finder will provide appropriate 24-hour notice when an H-1 employee is interviewed as a result of being named by an inmate in his/her verbal complaint or written grievances. This is not required for PREA-related charges;
2. obtaining all relevant documents, directives, post orders, policies, etc;
3. interviewing all witnesses and/or complainants;
4. obtaining written, signed, and dated statements, on the appropriate witness forms (refer to **Section 8** of this procedures manual) as deemed appropriate;
 - a. when requested by the employee, the fact-finder will return copies of the employee's witness statement, following the fact-finding, if the investigation involves a single individual such as during a time and attendance investigation;
 - b. witness statements of multiple witnesses in a more complex investigation will be held and released to those individuals requesting them after completion of the entire investigation; and

¹ 1-CTA-1C-01, 4-ACRS-7E-07

² 4-4069

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- c. an employee may only be given his/her own witness statement. Under no circumstances shall a witness statement be shared with a witness until the investigation is complete.
- 5. reviewing the findings with the Facility Human Resources Officer, or with the appropriate Labor Relations staff for Central Office investigations, to determine:
 - a. if a recommendation shall be made to the Facility Manager/Bureau Director for a Pre-Disciplinary Conference (PDC) or administrative action; and
 - b. potential work rule violations.
- 6. factors to be considered to determine if a recommendation for a PDC is warranted include, but are not limited to:
 - a. violation(s) of the Code of Ethics;
 - b. violation(s) of the Governor's Code of Conduct;
 - c. violation(s) of Department or facility policy/procedures;
 - d. time/attendance history; and
 - e. relevant past disciplinary history.
- 7. if a PDC does not appear warranted, the fact-finder will discuss the matter with the appropriate member of the Administrative Staff who will:
 - a. take whatever action is deemed appropriate (no action, counseling, or verbal/written reprimand);
 - b. prepare and distribute documentation on the information gathered and reviewed and of any resulting actions; and
 - c. notify the employee in writing if the investigation determines no violations have been made.
- 8. if a PDC appears warranted, the fact-finder will:
 - a. discuss the matter with the appropriate member of the Administrative Staff;
 - b. prepare a written report of the findings that would support a PDC;
 - c. attach all supporting documents (statements, directives, etc.); and
 - d. forward the report and all supporting documentation through the Chain-of-Command to the Facility Manager/Bureau Director or designee.

C. Facility Manager's/Bureau Director's Actions Prior to a Pre-Disciplinary Conference

1. Review the submitted report and recommendation, and determine if a PDC is warranted.
2. Review, in consultation with the Human Resources Officer/designee, the potential work rule violations identified by the fact-finder to determine the charges to be addressed during the PDC.
3. If a PDC is deemed appropriate, a **Pre-Disciplinary Conference Notice (Attachment 7-C)** is to be prepared and signed by the Facility Manager/designee. For a Central Office PDC, the notice shall be prepared and signed by the Bureau Director/designee or **Public Safety Human Resources (HR) Delivery Center Manager/designee**. The notice shall indicate the time, date, and location of the conference. The notice shall include enough specifics regarding the charge(s) to provide the employee with sufficient knowledge of the matter so that he/she may prepare to explain his/her actions. Unless extenuating circumstances exist, the PDC shall be held no sooner than two days (48 hours) from the date of the notice being served. The notice shall be hand-delivered to the employee while he/she is at work or shall be mailed to his/her home via First Class United States Postal Service (USPS) certified mail with a return receipt requested. If the notice is hand-delivered, a signed **Pre-Disciplinary Conference Notice of Receipt (Attachment 7-D)** must be returned as proof the notice was delivered to the employee. If the employee refuses to sign the **Pre-Disciplinary Conference Notice of Receipt**, the notice will be signed and dated by the management representative, noting the refusal. The PDC will generally be scheduled during the employee's normal working shift.
4. If, prior to the PDC, the employee requests a postponement in order to be represented by the Union during the PDC, a postponement may be granted. If a postponement is requested for another reason, the Human Resources Office shall decide if a postponement is warranted based upon the facts of the matter. The employee will be instructed to submit the request for postponement in writing to the Human Resources Officer/designee. The time of a postponement shall not exceed 14 days following the originally scheduled PDC date. For special circumstances, the Human Resources Officer/designee may approve a longer period of postponement. If a postponement is granted for any reason, appropriate notice of the postponement and the rescheduled date, time, and location shall be given to all concerned parties. The postponement notice either shall be hand-delivered to the employee while he/she is at work or shall be mailed to his/her home via First Class USPS certified mail with a return receipt requested. If the postponement notice is hand-delivered, a signed **Pre-Disciplinary Conference Notice of Receipt** must be returned as proof the notice was delivered to the employee.
5. Once the PDC is scheduled, **except for cases alleging violations of Department policy 1.6.2, "Sexual Harassment,"** at Central Office or in a facility, a committee shall be established for conducting the conference. The committee shall be comprised of the following:
 - a. a representative from the Human Resources Office; and

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- b. at least one management level employee, designated by the Deputy Secretary/Bureau Director/Facility Manager, who was not involved in the investigation or incident/issues giving rise to the investigation and who is of an equal or higher classification than the individual for which the PDC is being conducted.
6. In Community Corrections, ***except for cases alleging violations of Department policy 1.6.2***, the committee shall be comprised of the following:
 - a. the Center Director/designee;
 - b. the Regional Director/designee; and
 - c. a representative from the Human Resources Office from the support institution.
7. ***All PDC panels for cases alleging violations of Department policy 1.6.2. will be established by the Central Office Chief of Labor Relations in consultation with the appropriate Deputy Secretary(ies). Such panel members shall not be assigned to the home institution of the employee being scheduled for the PDC.***
8. Based upon the nature of the offense, technical nature of the facts, and/or based upon the position of the employee, the Facility Manager may request a variance of the committee's composition from the Regional Deputy Secretary. For a Central Office employee, the Bureau Director may request a variance of the committee's composition from the appropriate Deputy Secretary/designee.
9. With the exception of the committee's composition, each committee shall function in the same manner and all other procedures in this manual shall be adhered to.

D. Pre-Disciplinary Conference Committee's Actions

1. The Deputy Secretary/Bureau Director/Facility Manager ***or*** designee who is establishing the committee shall designate one of the committee members as the "Chairperson." The Chairperson, absent extenuating circumstances, will be a representative from the Human Resources Office. The Chairperson shall provide the fact-finding information to the other committee members prior to the scheduled PDC. Each member shall be responsible for reviewing the fact-finding information prior to the scheduled PDC and shall have an equal voice in determining whether the charge(s) under consideration in each case are substantiated or unsubstantiated.
2. For extenuating circumstances, the PDC can be held by phone or videoconference, as long as provisions are made by the PDC Committee to ensure due process representation and proper presentation of the evidence.
3. Minutes of the PDC are to be taken and submitted with the recommendation(s). The minutes of the PDC may be based upon a tape recording or written notes. The subject matter of the PDC is to be maintained as confidential, therefore, if clerical staff are utilized to take minutes of the proceedings, discretion must be used in selecting clerical

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staff for this assignment. A copy of the minutes shall be provided to the employee at his/her request and only once the investigation is complete and if/when discipline has been imposed.

4. In the event that a transcript or tape recording is made of the conference, the employee shall be provided with a copy of the transcript or tape at his/her request once the investigation is complete and if/when discipline has been imposed.

NOTE: No transcripts or tape recordings may be made during a PDC for employees covered by the Pennsylvania Social Services Union (SEIU Local 668/PSSU), per language in the collective bargaining agreement.

5. The PDC Chairperson shall determine if a tape recording device shall be used. If it is determined that a tape recording device shall not be used, neither party may tape record the proceedings.

NOTE: A mutual agreement between the Chairperson and the employee allowing the tape recording of the proceeding must be in place prior to the taping. If one of the parties disagrees with the use of a tape recording device, the device shall not be used.

6. The fact-finder/designee shall verbally present the pertinent information gathered during the investigation. The fact-finder may remain during the PDC at the request of the PDC panel in order to provide additional facts of the case.
7. Names of witnesses and/or complainants shall not be supplied, nor are copies of any statements or complaints to be provided to the employee involved in the PDC. Additionally, copies of any internal reports (**Bureau** of Investigations and Intelligence [**BII**], State Police reports, Equal Employment Opportunity [EEO] reports, etc.) shall not be supplied. The fact-finder only needs to be specific concerning the facts discovered during the investigation, not from whom or how the facts were discovered.
8. Employees, including management employees, are not permitted to have legal counsel during these proceedings. However, bargaining unit employees are permitted Union representation or an attorney or legal counsel designated or employed by the Union as their representative. **For matters involving potentially criminal behavior, employees shall be provided with applicable Miranda or Garrity Warnings prior to compelling testimony.**
9. The employee shall be provided a full opportunity to explain his/her actions or lack thereof. Following the explanation, the committee members may ask whatever questions are relevant and appropriate. The PDC Chairperson shall determine the relevancy and appropriateness of all questions. The Union representative's role is to advise the employee of his/her contractual rights and may also ask clarifying questions. All questions asked during the PDC shall be directed to and answered by the employee, not the Union representative. The Union representative shall be given the opportunity to comment prior to the conclusion of the PDC.

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10. If the employee has witnesses who can offer relevant testimony and requests for them to be present, the employee is to provide a list of such witnesses to the Human Resources Office at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled PDC. The employee may also offer copies of his/her witnesses' signed and dated statements. The Chairperson shall determine whether to allow such witness testimony and/or accept the statements. If allowed, the committee shall afford the witnesses' testimony and/or their statements appropriate consideration when formulating its recommendation(s).
11. The presence of witnesses on the employee's behalf is voluntary. If the employee agrees to testify in the PDC, and is on duty, arrangements shall be made to have the employee relieved and made available. If the employee agrees to testify in the PDC and is off duty, there shall be no compensation for the time the employee is at the PDC.
12. If the presence of witnesses on the management's behalf is required and, if the employee is on duty, arrangements shall be made to have the employee relieved and made available. If the employee is off duty, the employee shall be compensated for the time the employee is at the PDC.
13. If the employee who is the subject of the PDC has been suspended pending the PDC being conducted, that employee shall be compensated for the time the employee is at the PDC, except for Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)-exempt employees (refer to **Section 5** of this procedures manual).
14. If all matters have been adequately covered and no further investigation is required, the PDC shall be concluded. At this point, the fact-finder/designee who presented the facts, the employee, clerical staff, and any Union representatives shall be dismissed so the committee may meet in private. The committee reviews the facts of the case and a recommendation regarding whether the charge(s) are substantiated or unsubstantiated shall be formulated. ***For violations of Department policy DC-ADM 008, the Department shall impose no standard higher than a preponderance of the evidence in determining whether allegations of sexual abuse or sexual harassment are substantiated. (28 C.F.R. §115.34)***
15. Only the designated PDC committee members shall be present while their recommendation is being formulated. If additional investigation is needed before a recommendation can be made, the employee and Union shall be so advised when necessary. The PDC may need to be reconvened for the purpose of the employee being given the opportunity to respond to newly developed information prior to the final recommendation.
16. At no time shall the committee indicate the recommendation to the employee and/or the Union. All recommendations are to be confidential and are not to be discussed by the committee members with other employees prior to the action being imposed.
17. If the committee cannot reach a consensus decision, each member shall prepare a written recommendation. Any recommendation must be justified based upon the facts of the matter at hand.

18. The Chairperson shall forward a synopsis of the hearing and the minutes of the PDC to the Deputy Secretary/Bureau Director/Facility Manager for review and final action. The **Synopsis of Pre-Disciplinary Conference (Attachment 7-E)** shall include the finding of whether the charge(s) were substantiated or unsubstantiated, the facts relied upon to formulate the finding, and any aggravating or mitigating factors which shall be considered by the Deputy Secretary/Bureau Director/Facility Manager in determining a disciplinary sanction. The **Synopsis of Pre-Disciplinary Conference** will not include a recommendation for a level of discipline, which is the sole responsibility of the Deputy Secretary/Bureau Director/Facility Manager.

E. Regional Deputy Secretary/Bureau Director and/or Facility Manager Actions Following a Pre-Disciplinary Conference

1. Review the finding and determine whether disciplinary action is warranted.
2. The Deputy Secretary/Bureau Director/Facility Manager may meet with the PDC committee, if necessary, whenever the finding differs from the facts of the case, or if the Deputy Secretary/Bureau Director/Facility Manager requires additional information to make a decision regarding the level of discipline to be imposed.
3. If the charge(s) are found to be unsubstantiated, the Deputy Secretary/Bureau Director/Facility Manager shall prepare an appropriate correspondence to the involved employee informing him/her of that finding.
4. If the charge(s) are substantiated and the discipline does not meet the criteria in **Subsection F. below**, the Deputy Secretary/Bureau Director/Facility Manager shall prepare an appropriate correspondence to the involved employee. The correspondence shall contain a clear and sufficient explanation of the reason(s) for the action(s) and shall inform the employee of any appeal rights. The Deputy Secretary/Bureau Director/Facility Manager shall sign the correspondence. Please refer to **Section 6** of this procedures manual regarding delegation of signatory authority. The correspondence shall be either hand-delivered to the employee while at work, or mailed to the employee's home via First Class USPS certified mail with a return receipt requested. If the correspondence is hand-delivered, a signed notice of receipt must be returned as proof the correspondence was delivered.
5. If the charge(s) are substantiated and the discipline meets the criteria in **Subsection F. below**, the Deputy Secretary/Bureau Director/Facility Manager must submit a brief, concise, written synopsis of the case, a copy of the PDC Committee's recommendation, and a copy of the PDC minutes to the Chief of the Labor Relations Division. A copy of the **Pre-Disciplinary Conference Review Checklist (Attachment 7-F)**, **Investigation/Fact-Finding Tracking Sheet**, a complete copy of the fact-finding, all evidence collected, and all applicable investigative information checked on the **Pre-Disciplinary Conference Review Checklist** must be submitted.
6. The synopsis shall be submitted to the Chief of the Labor Relations Division as soon as possible following the determination of the planned action.

7. The synopsis must include the critical aspects of the investigation through and including the PDC. Previous discipline imposed must be referenced, as well as a summary of discipline from similar cases at the facility (if applicable), a recommendation for discipline in the case at hand, and a justification as to why substantiation of the charges are resulting in the level of discipline requested.
8. The intent of the synopsis is to summarize the issue in as brief a manner as possible, while including necessary details. Failure to include specifics of the matter may cause a delay in the review and implementation of the planned action.

F. Actions Requiring Review

The actions listed below require review by the Central Office **Public Safety HR Delivery Center**, the Deputy Secretary, and/or other Executive Staff prior to the action being imposed.

1. Dismissal: All dismissals except for Union and/or Civil Service status employees during the initial employment probationary period.
2. Demotions: All demotions.
3. Resignation in Lieu of Discharge: These actions require processing and approval in accordance with **Section 4** of this procedures manual.
4. Suspension: All suspensions except attendance related.

NOTE: This is not to be interpreted that an employee cannot be immediately suspended, if a suspension is warranted to ensure safety and security, pending the outcome of a fact-finding, an investigation, or PDC action (see **Section 5** of this procedures manual).

Civil Service covered employees may not be suspended to exceed 60 working days in a calendar year or 30 days after the completion of an external investigation.

5. Felony and Work-Related Criminal Misconduct: All planned actions. As per the Governor's Code of Conduct #1980-80, as soon as practicable after an employee has been charged with criminal conduct that constitutes a felony or work-related criminal charges, such employee shall be suspended without pay. If the arrest results in a conviction, a PDC must be held prior to termination.
6. All Non-Felony and Non-Work Related Convictions: Only those convictions and/or dispositions requiring a PDC as outlined in **Section 3** of this procedures manual.
7. Bid Post Removal: All permanent Bid Post removals.
8. **All cases alleging violations of Department policy 1.6.2, including unsubstantiated violations of Department policy 1.6.2.**
9. Any substantiated charges of:

- a. violation of Department policy **DC-ADM 008**;
 - (1) In accordance with Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003, Standard **28 C.F.R. §115.76(b)**, termination shall be the presumptive disciplinary sanction for staff who have engaged in sexual abuse.
 - (2) In accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003, Standard **28 C.F.R. §115.76(c)**, disciplinary sanctions for violations of agency policies related to sexual abuse or sexual harassment (other than actually engaging in sexual abuse) shall be commensurate with the nature and circumstances of the acts committed, the staff member's disciplinary history, and the sanctions imposed for comparable offenses by other staff with similar histories.
- b. inmate abuse/use of excessive force; and
- c. workplace violence.

G. Public Safety Human Resources (HR) Delivery Center and Labor Relations Division Review Process

For disciplinary actions requiring review, a PDC review packet consisting of all information compiled in **Subsection E.5. above** will be reviewed by **Public Safety HR Delivery Center** staff to include:

1. Chief of the Labor Relations Division/designee and/or the **Public Safety HR Delivery Center Manager/designee**;

Each successive staff member will promptly:

- a. review the Facility Manager/designee's synopsis of the case;
 - b. review the range of sanctions normally imposed in similar cases;
 - c. ensure that the PDC review packet is complete;
 - d. review any comments made by prior reviewers; and
 - e. provide a disciplinary recommendation and forward to the next level of review.
2. the **Public Safety HR Delivery Center Manager/designee**, shall forward the information to the appropriate Deputy Secretary for review.

H. Deputy Secretary's Actions

The affected Deputy Secretary/designee shall:

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1. review all the information received relative to the planned course of action and the range of sanctions expected to be imposed in similar cases;
2. provide a disciplinary recommendation;
3. return the form to the **Public Safety HR Delivery Center Manager**, who will:
 - a. review any comments;
 - b. inform the Deputy Secretary/Bureau Director/Facility Manager or designee of the outcome of the review in writing, using the **Pre-Disciplinary Conference Response Form (Attachment 7-G)**.
4. cases for dismissal will also be forwarded for additional review by the **Department's** Office of General Counsel and/or Executive Deputy Secretary and/or Secretary;
5. for PREA-related violations, the information shall be reviewed by the Department's PREA Coordinator/designee at Central Office; and
6. **for cases alleging violations of Department policy 1.6.2, the information shall be reviewed by the Department's Office of General Counsel.**

I. Deviation from the Range of Sanctions

The Facility Manager/Bureau Director or designee may deviate from the normal range of sanctions. However, if the Facility Manager/Bureau Director or designee opts to deviate from that range, a report of the rationale for the deviation must be submitted, in advance, to the appropriate Deputy Secretary and approval must be given for such deviation. Verification of such approval shall be submitted to the Chief of the Labor Relations Division for notification to the Facility Manager/Bureau Director or designee.

Section 8 - Standardized Grievance Tracking and Handling

The purpose of this section is to implement a procedure which standardizes the logging, handling, and responding to of all grievances received at the facility/center/bureau level to make the Department aware of the number and type of grievances being filed and to enable the Department's Labor Relations Division to offer assistance to the respective facility at the earliest stages of the grievance procedure.¹

Most collective bargaining agreements (CBAs) contain clauses which do not permit the dual filing of a grievance and a Civil Service Appeal, and require the employee to make a decision on which avenue to pursue. Consult the bargaining agreement involved for particulars. Written notice is required only for the H-1 bargaining unit per **Article 35 Section 1** of the CBA. **Sample Letter-Grievance and Appeal Filed (Attachment 8-A)** is to be provided to H-1 covered employees if this occurs.

Upon receipt of a grievance, request additional information from the union (when necessary) for the review and investigation of the grievance. **Sample Letter-Requesting More Details (Attachment 8-B)** is to be provided to the union for these requests occurring for H-1 covered employees.

A. Step-by-Step Plan of Action: Non-Accelerated Grievance Procedure (AGP)

The following table represents the step-by-step plan of action for the proper administration of non-AGP grievance procedures. **NOTE:** non-AGP grievances are often referred to as Standard Grievance Procedure (SGP). FOSCEP and SEIU Local 668 (PSSU) utilize the SGP. Consult the appropriate CBA regarding specifics of the grievance procedure.

Step	Action	Responsibility
1.	Upon receipt of a grievance, immediately mark on the grievance form the date it was received and initial the notation.	Manager/Supervisor Bureau/Center Director
2.	For all facility grievances, immediately forward the grievance to the Field Human Resource Officer with a note requesting it be assigned a tracking number and logged. The Non-AGP Grievance Log (Attachment 8-C) is for non-AGP grievances. For all Bureau or Center grievances, assign a tracking number and enter the grievance on the appropriate log. The Non-AGP Grievance Log is for non-AGP grievances.	Manager/Supervisor Bureau/Center Director
3.	For non-AGP grievances, forward the grievance to the grievant's immediate supervisor for investigation, hearing, as appropriate, and response.	Field Human Resource Officer

¹ 2-C0-1C-02, 4-ACRS-7E-01

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4.	<p>Upon receipt, review the grievance to determine the issue(s) and how best to proceed. Conduct a thorough investigation of every grievance. Your investigation must include a complete explanation of the circumstances giving rise to the grievance (who, what, when, where, and how), a determination if the grievance was timely filed, and the gathering of all appropriate policies and procedures.</p> <p>For all non-AGP grievances, complete the appropriate investigation form (Standard Grievance Procedure-Contract Interpretation Grievance Investigation Report [Attachment 8-D] or Standard Grievance Procedure-Discipline Grievance Investigation Report [Attachment 8-E]). Ensure all witness statements are signed and dated on the proper form (Commonwealth Witness Statement [Attachment 8-F] and Commonwealth Witness Supplemental Statement [Attachment 8-G]).</p>	<p>Manager/Supervisor Designated Investigator Center/Bureau Director Field Human Resource Officer</p>
5.	<p>For all non-AGP grievances, prepare a draft response for the review of your immediate supervisor, if required. Once approved, record that response on the appropriate form. The Sample Withdraw Letter (Attachment 8-H) should be used whenever the union has indicated the grievance is to be withdrawn. The Sample Settlement Letter (Attachment 8-I) should be used whenever the grievance is to be settled. Grievance denials are to be prepared and attached as management's response. Forward the grievance response to the person from whom the grievance was received.</p> <p>For facility non-AGP grievances, provide a copy of the entire packet (grievance, investigation report, supporting documentation, policies, procedures, and response) to the Field Human Resource Officer, who shall immediately forward a copy of it to the Labor Relations Division.</p> <p>For Center/Bureau non-AGP grievances, immediately provide a copy of the entire packet to the Labor Relations Division.</p> <p>NOTE: Any questions concerning the appropriateness of the proposed response shall be directed to the Field Human Resource Officer before it is given to the union or grievant. If questions arise regarding a response or the Department's position to a grievance, the Human Resources Officer must consult with the Department's Labor Relations Division for appropriate guidance prior to a formal response being issued to the union. In the event the grievance was settled, ensure that the necessary actions are taken to implement the terms of the settlement when the signed settlement letter is received from the union.</p>	<p>Manager/Supervisor Designated Investigator Center/Bureau Director Field Human Resource Officer</p>

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B. Step-by-Step Plan of Action: Accelerated Grievance Procedure (AGP)

The following table represents the step-by-step plan of action for the proper administration of AGP. With the exception of FOSCEP and SEIU Local 668 (PSSU), all other unions follow the AGP, except for classification grievances which are addressed in **Subsection C. below**. Consult the appropriate CBA regarding specifics of the grievance procedure.

Step	Action	Responsibility
1.	Upon receipt of a grievance, immediately mark on the grievance form the date it was received and initial the notation.	Manager/Supervisor Bureau/Center Director
2.	For all facility grievances, immediately forward the grievance to the Field Human Resource Officer with a note requesting it be assigned a tracking number and logged. The AGP Grievance Log (Attachment 8-J) is for AGP grievances. For all Bureau or Center grievances, assign a tracking number and enter the grievance on the appropriate log. The AGP Grievance Log is for AGP grievances.	Manager/Supervisor Bureau/Center Director
3.	For AGP grievances, forward the grievance to the appropriate Manager, requesting someone is assigned to investigate it. The Field Human Resource Officer is the designated worksite representative to receive grievances and is responsible for the investigation and for providing a grievance response to the union.	Field Human Resource Officer
4.	For AGP grievances, review the grievance to determine the issue(s) and who would be the most appropriate person to investigate it. Forward the grievance to that person for investigation (except classification grievances; see Subsection C. below).	Respective Deputy Superintendent/Facility Maintenance Manager Business Manager
5.	Upon receipt, review the grievance to determine the issue(s) and how best to proceed. Conduct a thorough investigation of every grievance. Your investigation must include a complete explanation of the circumstances giving rise to the grievance (the who, what, when, where, and how), a determination if the grievance was timely filed, and the gathering of all appropriate policies and procedures. For all AGP grievances, complete the appropriate investigation form (Accelerated Grievance Procedure-Discipline Grievance Investigation Report [Attachment 8-K] or Accelerated Grievance Procedure-Contract Interpretation/Application Grievance Investigation Report [Attachment 8-L]). Ensure all witness statements are on the proper form.	Manager/Supervisor Designated Investigator Center/Bureau Director Field Human Resource Officer
6.	For all facility AGP grievances, the complete investigation packet (grievance, all supporting policies, procedures, documentation, witness statements, etc.) shall be returned to the Facility Manager. NOTE: Any questions concerning the appropriateness of the proposed response shall be directed to the Field Human Resource Officer before it is given to the union or grievant. If	Manager/Supervisor Designated Investigator Center/Bureau Director Field Human Resource Officer

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	<p>questions arise regarding a response or the Department's position to a grievance, the Field Human Resource Officer must consult with the Department's Labor Relations Division for appropriate guidance prior to a formal response being issued to the union. In the event the grievance was settled, ensure that the necessary actions are taken to implement the terms of the settlement when the signed settlement letter is received from the union.</p>	
7.	<p>For AGP grievances, review the complete investigation packet to determine if it contains any information, which may be considered confidential. All decisions regarding the confidentiality of information which may be shared shall be made with regards to Departmental policy and applicable laws. Some information may need to be redacted to ensure confidentiality before it is shared as part of a grievance response.</p> <p>If nothing is confidential, determine exactly what information from the investigation packet you shall rely upon to support your position on the grievance. Make two copy sets of that information. (This information shall be used to defend your position on the grievance. Consequently, it must be furnished to the union during the first step meeting. It shall also be the information introduced at the Joint Area and State Committees should the grievance proceed that far.) Then prepare a cover memo to the union representative who attends the first step meetings, specifying exactly what information is being furnished. Attach the original memo to one of the copy sets and provide the packet to the union during the first step meeting; the second copy of the memo and information shall serve as your record of what information was provided during the meeting. It is suggested that the union sign management's copy of the memo to acknowledge receipt.</p> <p>If some information contained in the grievance investigation packet has been determined to be confidential, you shall still initiate the above action except you shall not include the confidential information.</p> <p>If information is not shared due to confidentiality concerns, it is imperative your cover memo indicates that some information has not been included because of its confidentiality and that it shall be necessary for the union to initiate an in camera review meeting to review that information.</p>	<p>Respective Deputy Superintendent/Facility Maintenance Manager Business Manager Regional Director</p>
8.	<p>Return the entire grievance investigation packet, including the cover memo and information packets, to the Human Resources Officer with a note indicating the investigation has been reviewed, found to be complete and accurate, and that the grievance is prepared to be discussed at the appropriate month's meeting.</p>	<p>Respective Deputy Superintendent/Facility Maintenance Manager Business Manager Regional Director</p>
	<p>NOTE FOR SUSPENSION PENDING INVESTIGATION (SPI) GRIEVANCES WHEN THE GRIEVANT IS DISCIPLINED OR TERMINATED AT THE CONCLUSION OF OUR INVESTIGATION:</p>	

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<p>When a grievance filed regarding a suspension pending investigation (SPI) action has advanced beyond Step 1 and then is amended to include the final discipline, management shall request to reconvene the first step meeting to properly discuss and exchange the discipline-related information. The request to reconvene a Step 1 meeting shall be made to the union and confirmed in writing.</p> <p>The SPI Sample Letter (Attachment 8-M) should be used to document management's request that a first step grievance meeting be scheduled, when a current SPI grievance has been amended by the union, to include a disciplinary/termination action.</p>	
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C. Plan of Action: Classification Grievances

The following represents the plan of action for the proper administration of classification grievance procedures.

	Action	Responsibility
	Classification grievances require submission to Central Office, Workforce Management Division, for first step review. Please consult the applicable CBA upon receipt of a classification grievance. Should you be presented such a grievance, immediately return it to the union, and direct them to follow the CBA when filing. Please DO NOT forward the grievance to the Workforce Management Division on behalf of the union.	Manager/Supervisor Bureau/Center Director Field Human Resource Officer

D. Conducting Grievance Meetings

The following table represents the plan of action for the proper administration of grievance meeting procedures.

Step	Action	Responsibility
1.	<p>Meetings with the appropriate union must be scheduled to discuss each grievance listed on the agenda. It is encouraged to have a standing monthly meeting scheduled with each union for these discussions, as needed. If standing monthly meetings are scheduled and there are no grievances to discuss, the meeting can be cancelled. At this meeting, discuss the results of the grievance investigation and exchange and review the grievance packets. At the first step grievance meeting, the parties must advise each other of all then known facts, including witnesses, and furnish copies of relevant reports or investigations upon which they relied in support of their position. Witness statements must be completed on the attachments provided in this policy. (See Commonwealth Witness Statement and Commonwealth Witness Supplemental Statement)</p> <p>Meeting agendas should be shared between the parties (union and management) in advance of the monthly Step 1 grievance meeting. Please refer to the applicable CBA for requirements for</p>	Field Human Resource Officer/Regional Director

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Step	Action	Responsibility
	<p>timely submission of grievances to be placed on the monthly meeting schedule. A meeting agenda shall be prepared listing all AGP grievances to be heard at that month's meeting.</p> <p>The applicable CBA shall be consulted to determine if submission timeframe requirements have been met in order to hear the grievance at the next scheduled meeting. If CBA timelines are not met, the grievance should be held for the next month's meeting.</p> <p>For facility AGP grievances, copies of the agenda shall be provided to the Facility Manager, and as appropriate, the respective Deputy Superintendent, local management staff, local Union President, and District Council Representative, Staff Representative, or Business Agent.</p> <p>For Center AGP grievances, copies shall be provided to the local Union President and District Council Representative, Staff Representative, or Business Agent, as appropriate.</p> <p>If grievances are added to the agenda after its distribution, notice of the added grievances must be promptly provided to the persons to whom the agenda was furnished.</p>	
2.	<p>If the Union indicates the grievance shall be withdrawn from the procedure, complete the Sample Withdraw Letter, have it signed by the union representative, provide a copy to the representative, and file a copy with your grievance packet.</p> <p>If the grievance is to be settled, the Sample Settlement Letter should be used.</p> <p>If the grievance is neither withdrawn nor settled, it shall be denied. The Sample 1st Step Grievance Response Letter (Attachment 8-N) may be referenced as an example. Management's position for the denial must be in writing, signed, and dated. Denials must be given as soon as possible, or as defined in the applicable CBA.</p> <p>NOTE: If questions arise regarding the appropriateness of a response or the Department's position to a grievance, the Field Human Resource Officer must consult the Department's Labor Relations Division for appropriate guidance prior to a formal response being issued to the union.</p> <p>If additional investigation is required by management after hearing the union's arguments, management should indicate that it reserves the right to add additional information to the first step grievance packet provided at the meeting. When providing the written grievance response, any additional information must be enumerated in and included as an attachment to the response letter. Such letter must also indicate that the information will be</p>	<p>Respective Deputy Superintendent/Facility Maintenance Manager Business Manager Field Human Resource Officer/Regional Director</p>

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Step	Action	Responsibility
	included in management's Step 2 grievance packet. For facility AGP grievances, the Respective Deputy Superintendent, Facility Maintenance Manager, or Business Manager shall be responsible for providing the Field Human Resource Officer with the Step 1 grievance packet (grievance, investigation form, relevant policies and procedures, meeting agenda, the disposition, and whatever other material that was used to support the action taken).	
3.	Upon notification that a grievance has been filed to Step 2, the Labor Relations Division will notify the institution's Field Human Resource Officer/Bureau of Community Corrections Labor Relations liaison/Regional Director of the Step 2 filing and request that management's grievance packet be provided to the Labor Relations Division and the union packet be reviewed to ensure it is the same as that provided at Step 1.	Labor Relations Division Regional Director/Field Human Resource Officer
4.	Discipline grievances that are settled at Step 1 or modified at Step 2 require the discipline letter to be revised in accordance with the settlements/Step 2 decisions. The Sample Letter-Grievance Resolved (Attachment 8-O) may be referenced to revise discipline letters as a result of settlement.	Field Human Resource Officer/Regional Director

E. Plan of Action: Response to Requests for Information (RFI)

The following provides guidance of a general plan of action for responding to Requests for Information (RFI) from the union.

	Action	Responsibility
	<p>Upon receiving an RFI from a union, a written response shall be provided in a timely manner.</p> <p>Requests from union officials for employee information are to be honored when the information requested is relevant and necessary to the union's responsibilities in representing the employee, consistent with the provisions of the Public Employee Relations Act of 1970 (PERA) and the applicable CBA. If a union request seeks confidential employee information or information which may otherwise be subject to protection from disclosure, consultation with labor relations and/or legal staff should occur before responding.</p> <p>Should an RFI be received pertaining to non-bargaining unit employees, such information would generally be considered not relevant and would not need to be disclosed. Exceptions may occur when the information is related to the union's duty to protect bargaining unit work.</p> <p>Confidentiality interests do not give the Department an absolute right to deny the request; therefore, responses may include supporting documentation that may contain redacted information.</p>	<p>Manager/Supervisor Bureau/Center Director Field Human Resource Officer/Labor Relations Division</p>

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	Action	Responsibility
	<p>Any claims of confidentiality must be grounded on a specific reason, not a generalized claim of confidentiality.</p> <p>An in camera review (A legal term meaning outside of public view: "We met in camera to review and discuss the information.") may be offered in situations where material is allowed to be viewed by the union, but when copies are not actually provided. An example of such information is, but not limited to, the sharing of video evidence. Video and/or still picture evidence shall not be released in response to any information request without prior authorization from the Department's Office of Chief Counsel. When pertinent, such evidence may only be shared via in camera review, until a grievance has risen to the level of arbitration.</p> <p>The union is not entitled to information related to an ongoing investigation of misconduct, where no discipline has been imposed against any employee at the time of the request. (See Section 7.B, "Fact Finder's Actions" of this procedures manual, regarding when to supply witness statements.)</p> <p>If the union fails to reference a legitimate purpose for its request, or if the request is too vague, clarification must be sought within a reasonable period of time. Do not simply ignore the request, but respond in writing to attempt to obtain the clarification necessary to properly respond.</p> <p>Unless excessive costs or time burdens are involved in compiling and/or mailing the information, it shall be provided without charge. Should excessive time or cost be at issue, there shall not be a response of categorically denying the information, rather a discussion of how the information could be reasonably supplied shall occur.</p> <p>There is no obligation to provide information which has already been supplied to the union or simply does not exist. The same is true for information requested which may be related to grievances which have been previously withdrawn or settled. However, a timely written response must still be provided to reflect that the information is not being supplied, as requested, based on this reason(s). Similarly, there is no requirement to provide the requested information in the exact format requested by the union if it otherwise exists in another format.</p> <p>If information requested is not in the Department's possession, when practical, reasonable attempts to obtain the information shall be made. (An example of this may be surveillance footage from an outside hospital where the alleged misconduct occurred.)</p>	

Section 9 - Limited Advance Notification Process for Employee Disciplinary Action

A. Procedures

It is the purpose of this section to establish a limited advance notification process whereby Facility Managers and Bureau Directors/designees shall contact the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), **Harrisburg Office**, to notify them in advance of possible employee disciplinary action against an employee who is under investigation by the OIG or any other external agency. The purpose of this advance notification is to ensure that any ongoing investigation by the OIG or other external agency is not compromised or adversely affected by premature disciplinary action. ***This notification is not intended to apply to general cases of criminal misconduct that are covered under the provisions of Section 3 of this procedures manual.***

1. The Facility Manager or Bureau Director must notify the OIG prior to taking any disciplinary action against an employee who is under investigation by the OIG or any other external agency.
2. Unless mutually agreed upon by the Department **and** OIG or external agency, this notification does not preclude the disciplinary action taken by the facility on the employee.
3. The Department's Labor Relations Division should be notified for input on the final disciplinary action.
4. It shall be the responsibility of the Facility Manager or Bureau Director to notify the OIG **Harrisburg Office** prior to taking any disciplinary action against an employee in cases where the incident involves behavior that is currently or is likely to become the subject of an investigation by the OIG or other external agency. This would not include employee incidents such as tardiness, insubordination, undependability, or other related work rule violations.

Section 10 - Drug Interdiction

A. Procedures

Substance abuse issues, drug and alcohol testing requirements, and the consequences of drug and alcohol use shall be provided to all employees and shall be handled in accordance with Department policy, **6.3.12, “Drug Interdiction Manual - Section 5.”**

Section 11 – Workplace Violence

A. Policy

1. The Department is committed to ensuring a safe environment for its employees and is dedicated to maintaining a work environment that is free from violence. The Department has a “zero tolerance” policy for any incidents of workplace violence, including threats of violence, by or against its employees or other individuals on Commonwealth property. All forms of violence, threatening behavior, and/or harassment, which involve or affect employees of the Department, are prohibited by this policy. Violence, threats, harassment, intimidation, and other behaviors that are disruptive to the Department will not be tolerated, regardless of mistakes, ignorance, or other extenuating circumstances. All reports of workplace violence incidents will be taken seriously and will be dealt with appropriately through a prompt investigation completed in accordance with established procedural guidelines set forth by the Department. **Individuals who report a workplace violence incident will be notified by the Department if the resulting investigation discovered that the incident was substantiated or unsubstantiated.** Violations of this policy by Department employees may lead to: **the employee being removed from the premises;** disciplinary action, up to and including termination from employment; **and/or criminal charges.**
2. Violence connected to the workplace takes many forms. Incidents of workplace violence include, but are not limited to, threats in person, by letter or note, telephone, fax, or electronic mail **or other electronic means (i.e., websites, blogs, social networks);** intimidation, harassment **which creates a hostile work environment to include sexual harassment, retaliation for reporting an act of workplace violence,** mugging, robbery, physical assault, and destruction of Commonwealth property. **Other examples of workplace violence include homicide and other physical assaults; hazing; domestic violence; stalking; bullying; and emotional abuse,** refer to **Examples of Workplace Violence (Attachment 11-A)** for further examples of workplace violence incidents. Incidents of workplace violence may occur either at or away from the workplace. The determining factors in assessing whether an incident constitutes workplace violence are the individuals involved and the relationship of the action to the workplace; the location of the incident; and/or if the violence is as a result of Commonwealth business.
3. **Employees are urged to use the confidential benefits of the State Employee Assistance Program (SEAP) in dealing with emotional response to workplace violence. SEAP is available for employees and their family members 24-hours/day at 1-800-692-7459, TTY 1-800-824-4306.**

B. Responsibilities

1. Office of Administration

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The Office of Administration is responsible for monitoring workplace violence incidents in order to identify patterns and to develop policies for mitigating and avoiding future occurrences of such incidents. The information shall also be used to initiate critical incident stress debriefings offered by SEAP should they be needed.

2. Department of Corrections

a. Central Office

- (1) The Director of the Bureau of Human Resources (BHR)/designee is responsible for notifying the Deputy Secretary for **Human Resources and Management** of the Office of Administration of all serious workplace violence incidents.
- (2) ***The Director of the BHR/designee will be responsible to establish and maintain a workplace violence committee. The Committee shall:***
 - (a) ***review workplace violence incidents to identify trends and patterns and to recommend policies/strategies for mitigating and avoiding future occurrences of such incidents. The committee shall also provide periodic updates to Department senior staff;***
 - (b) ***the committee chair shall be the Agency Workplace Violence Coordinator. Other members shall include the EEO Director/designee; Security Division Manager/designee; Training Academy Director/designee; Assistant to the Deputy Secretary for Administration (optional); and***
 - (c) ***frequency of committee meetings shall be on an as needed/ad hoc basis.***

b. Facility **Manager/Bureau Director**

- (1) Each Facility Manager/designee **or Bureau Director** is responsible for ensuring that all employee reported serious incidents of workplace violence are immediately reported to Central Office. ***The Facility Manager/designee or Bureau Director/designee will ensure an investigation is completed concerning the workplace violence complaint. Responsibility will include determining if the complaint is substantiated or unsubstantiated. After the conclusion of the investigation, the Facility Manager/Bureau Director will complete a response letter to notify the complainant and/or the subject(s) of the investigation, as appropriate.***
- (2) ***If unsubstantiated, the Facility Manager/designee shall use the Workplace Violence Response Letter – Unsubstantiated (Attachment 11-B) to respond to the complainant and the subject(s) of the investigation.***

- (3) ***If substantiated, the Facility Manager/designee shall use the Workplace Violence Response Letter – Substantiated (Attachment 11-C) to respond to the complainant.***
- (4) ***Any discipline requested as a result of a Pre-Disciplinary Conference (PDC) for a workplace violence incident must come to Central Office for review before being issued.***
- (5) ***A copy of any discipline issued as a result of a workplace violence incident shall be sent to the Agency Workplace Violence Coordinator at the e-mail resource account: CR, CEN Workplace Violence.***

c. Employee

- (1) Each employee is responsible for reporting incidents of workplace violence.
- (2) ***The employee is responsible for reading and being familiar with the workplace violence policy and being proactive in the prevention of workplace violence incidents.***

C. Reporting Procedures

1. Bureau of Human Resources

- a. The Director, BHR/***designee*** shall make notification, by telephone, to the Deputy Secretary for ***Human Resources and Management*** of the Office of Administration of all serious incidents of workplace violence immediately after appropriate law enforcement/***medical*** authorities are notified.
- b. The following procedures for reporting serious incidents shall be used as soon as possible after the incident and the victims have been seen by appropriate law enforcement/***medical*** personnel.
 - (1) Where the Intranet exists, it shall be used to complete the **Reporting Data Sheet for Incidents of Workplace Violence (Attachment 11-D)**. To access this form:
 - (a) go to the intranet site:
[http://oapmr.state.pa.us/Program%20Areas/Seap/Online_WPV_Application/Security_For_WPV_Form/default.asp?oahrmNav=\[4151\]](http://oapmr.state.pa.us/Program%20Areas/Seap/Online_WPV_Application/Security_For_WPV_Form/default.asp?oahrmNav=[4151]);
 - (b) log in using Department user name and password;
 - (c) choose the type of transaction; and
 - (d) complete and submit the form.

- (2) Where or when the intranet is not available, the **Reporting Data Sheet for Incidents of Workplace Violence** shall be used and forwarded/faxed to the **Workplace Support Services** Division of the Office of Administration.
- (3) If all information is not readily known, complete all available information as soon as possible. Additional data regarding the incident can be added or updated at any time on the Intranet site by clicking on the “Edit an Existing Record” link.
- (4) If the incident involves the use of e-mail, the BHR shall coordinate with the Bureau of Information Technology (BIT) to investigate electronic communication records as needed.

2. Facility Manager/**Bureau Director** shall:

- a. ensure that all incidents of workplace violence are reported to the Central Office BHR;
- b. immediately telephone the **Director of the BHR**, Chief of Labor Relations **and/or the Agency Workplace Violence Coordinator** to report any incidents **which may result in the need for medical treatment and/or law enforcement involvement**;
- c. secure information from the victim to complete the **Reporting Data Sheet for Incidents of Workplace Violence** within two work days after the **incident or as soon as possible if circumstances prevent reporting within this timeframe**; and
- d. **submit the completed Reporting Data Sheet for Incidents of Workplace Violence** to the Workplace Violence e-mail resource account: CR, CEN Workplace Violence.

3. Employees shall:

- a. **immediately report all incidents of workplace violence to his/her supervisor, reviewing officer, field human resource officer, or Central Office Workplace Violence Coordinator; and**
- b. **employees who have protection from abuse orders from other individuals should notify management. Employees should work with their managers and supervisors to take appropriate steps to minimize the opportunity for the legally identified perpetrator to contact or visit the employee.**

Section 12 – Personnel Transactions (Appointments, Promotions, Demotions, Pay Changes, Leaves, Transfers, and Separations)

A. General Procedures

1. The Department shall conduct all employee transactions in accordance with the instructions issued via the **Governor's Office of Administration (OA), Human Resources Office** and the following Management Directives and resources:¹
 - a. **Personnel Rules, M505.7;**
 - b. **Civil Service Rules;**
 - c. **Wage Complement Management and Control, M505.20;**
 - d. **Absence Program Manual, M530.7;**
 - e. **Injury Leave Manual, M530.2;**
 - f. **Transfers of Employees from One Agency to Another, M515.2;**
 - g. **Salaried Complement Control, M505.4;**
 - h. **Payroll Advances, MD 525.6;**
 - i. **Payment of Back Pay Due to Reinstatement of a Separated Employee or Reduction of Disciplinary Suspension, MD525.12;**
 - j. **Disability Benefits, Related Pay Status Options, and Retired Employee Health Program (REHP) Effective Dates, MD530.15;**
 - k. **the Commonwealth Pay Plan;**
 - l. **Appropriate Collective Bargaining Agreements;**
 - m. **Department of Corrections Promotion/Demotion Guidelines;**
 - n. **Department of Corrections Electronic Personnel Action Request (E-PAR) Quick Reference Guide;** and
 - o. **Department of Corrections Bureau of Human Resources (BHR) Transaction E-PAR Manual.**

¹ 1-CTA-1C-01, 4-ACRS-2A-03

2. These directives and manuals are issued to Field **Human Resource** Offices through the Commonwealth Directives Management System **and/or through distribution from the Department's Central Office**. All Field **Human Resource** Offices are to **ensure that personnel transactions are processed through the Standard Application Processes System (SAP) in accordance with the latest directives and manuals outlined above**.

B. Responsibilities

1. Central Office BHR Transaction Unit

- a. **The BHR Transaction Unit will provide guidance and support to the field HR transaction personnel with respect to completion of the required E-PAR for any action affecting a filled position.**
- b. **The BHR Transaction Unit will perform random post audits of transactions entered into SAP for accuracy.**

2. Field Human Resource Transaction Personnel

- a. **The field HR transaction personnel will prepare the appropriate E-PAR to initiate a personnel action request and attach all calculations and documentation to process the transaction.**
- b. **The field HR transaction personnel will perform a post audit of each transaction request completed via E-PAR to include the notification documentation prepared by the Human Resource Service Center (HRSC) to ensure accuracy.**
- c. **The field HR transaction personnel will notify the transaction processor of errors and track the corrections and changes to ensure accuracy.**
- d. **The field HR transaction personnel will distribute the notification documentation prepared by the HRSC to the employee and will prepare appropriate carbon copies.**

3. Human Resource Service Center (HRSC)

The HRSC will input all actions for filled positions as requested via the E-PAR application.

Section 13 – Employee Movements within the Department

A. Guidelines¹

All employee movements between facilities **shall** be made **effective within** 60 calendar days, except when employees are moving into **either the Corrections Officer Trainee or Parole Agent 1** classifications **which requires movements to be made in accordance with the structured training class**. All determinations that are in contrast with this policy **shall** ultimately be approved by **the respective Deputy Secretary**.

B. Procedures for Intradepartmental Movements

1. Human Resource Offices **shall** ensure that job vacancies are posted at designated recruitment locations. **Interviews and selections shall be conducted** in accordance with **Section 38** of this procedures manual.²
2. Current Department employees **shall** seek out job postings **via the Commonwealth's employment website at <https://www.employment.pa.gov>** for positions and locations of interest and submit appropriate application materials in accordance with the language on the posting.
3. Facility Managers/Directors **shall** approve or deny selections after reviewing the justification for selection, and forward all information to the Human Resource Office for processing.³
4. Losing Facility Managers/**Directors shall** review the request to release the employee and determine if the release will significantly impact the operations of the facility. If operations will not be negatively impacted due to the release, then a release date can be coordinated with the gaining facility **to occur within 60 days. A facility seeking to delay a movement for operational needs may do so for up to 90 days with the approval of the respective Deputy Secretary**.⁴
5. The Deputy Secretary **shall** review the justification for non-release for merit and discuss with the **respective Executive Deputy Secretary and** Secretary of Corrections, **as needed**.⁵
6. **Movement** requests based upon hardship **shall** be submitted to the **Human Resource Manager, Department of Corrections, Human Resource Office**.

¹ 5-ACI-1C-11

² 4-APPFS-1C-04

³ 4-APPFS-1C-04

⁴ 4-APPFS-1C-04

⁵ 4-APPFS-1C-04

C. Postings for Corrections Officer 1 and 2 Job Titles

- 1. Human Resource Offices shall ensure that job vacancies are posted for the first two CO1 positions which they intend to fill each calendar quarter for the purpose of facilitating Inter-Facility movements for a total of eight postings per year.**
- 2. Postings shall be distributed and displayed in the same manner as non-Corrections Officer job postings. Current Department employees shall seek out job postings via the Commonwealth's employment website at <https://www.employment.pa.gov> for positions and locations of interest and submit appropriate application materials in accordance with the language on the posting.**
- 3. CO2s who wish to transfer to another facility must apply for a CO1 posting and shall be required to take a demotion to CO1, if selected. All other CO1 movements shall be processed as lateral reassignments.**
- 4. If there are no eligible CO1 or CO2 bidders available, the posting shall count towards the quarterly posting quota requirement and the Human Resources Office may attempt to fill the vacancy via other recruitment methods. If the facility does not have enough Corrections Officer vacancies open in a given quarter to meet the posting quota, the posting requirement shall be carried over and added to the next quarter's posting quota. The unmet quota requirement shall roll over each quarter until the end of the fiscal year. All posting quotas shall start fresh at the beginning of each fiscal year (July 1st).**

Section 15 – Temporary Working Out of Classification (TWOC)¹

A. Purpose

The purpose of this section is to address Department and Commonwealth policy and procedures regarding temporary higher classification assignments.

B. Policy

Commonwealth Management Directive 525.4 Amended (Temporary Assignment in Higher Classification) establishes policy, responsibilities, and procedures for reviewing and processing TWOC assignments.

TWOC is defined as an assignment of higher-level work that is distinguishable from an employee's regular job duties by virtue of the circumstances under which it is performed and the frequency with which it is performed.

C. General²

1. Before an employee is assigned to work in a higher classification, every effort should be made to ensure that such an assignment is absolutely essential and critical to the continued operation of the organizational unit.
2. ***If it is determined that the continued performance of duties is absolutely critical and essential***, consideration must be given to accomplishing these duties on a temporary and non-overtime basis in the following priority order:
 - a. higher-level ***or managerial*** employees are to absorb the most essential responsibilities for short ***time*** periods; and
 - b. employees in the same classification or same pay ***scale*** are to be temporarily assigned.
3. If an employee in a lower classification must be assigned TWOC, the employee must meet the minimum experience and training (***MET***) requirements for the higher classification. ***Exceptions to this policy are limited to emergency situations and can only be approved for up to 60 workdays by the Public Safety Human Resource Delivery Center's (PSHRDC's) Organization Management Section.***
4. ***A non-merit covered employee is not to be temporarily assigned to a higher-level merit covered classification. Exceptions to this policy can only be granted by the Office of Administration's Bureau of Talent Acquisition and will require written justification, a description of how the employee meets the MET requirements for***

¹ 4-APPFS-3A-11

² 5-ACI-1C-13

the higher classification, and current and accurate position descriptions for the employee's current position and the higher-level position.

5. *An employee's TWOC assignment may not begin until approval is received from the PSHRDC's Organization Management Section. In certain cases (e.g., as described in Subsection C.4. above), the Organization Management Section is required to obtain external approvals prior to commencement of the proposed assignment.*
6. *Excluding exceptional circumstances, TWOC assignments will not be made for a period of less than five consecutive workdays. In addition, a TWOC assignment will not extend for more than nine continuous months or the length of the leave of absence of the employee being replaced, whichever is greater.*
7. *Excluding exceptional circumstances, TWOC assignment requests shall be submitted to the PSHRDC's Organization Management Section at least five workdays prior to commencement of the proposed assignment.*
8. *Any contradicting language in a collective bargaining agreement (CBA), contract, or union side agreement will take precedence over this policy.*

D. Procedures

1. Supervisors

- a. *Justify to agency management the need to assign higher-level duties to an employee. In order for a TWOC assignment request to be formally made, it must have the support of the applicable Facility Manager or Bureau/Office Director (or designee).*
- b. *Control the use of TWOC assignments through the exercise of good judgment and management practices and by ensuring that all other alternate methods have been pursued in accordance with Subsection C.2. above.*
- c. *If it is determined that a TWOC assignment is absolutely critical and essential, and the employee meets the MET requirements of the higher-level classification, ensure a Personnel Action Request (PAR) is submitted to the PSHRDC.³ The PAR form can be found at: <https://oaiss.state.pa.us/par/EntryForm.asp>. The e-PAR Quick Reference Guide outlines processing guidance and can be found on the agency's Intranet site under Bureaus/Human Resources.*
- d. *Inform the employee, in writing, of a TWOC assignment approved by the PSHRDC. The written notification can be in the form of a memo or approved TWOC PAR and should address:*

³ Corrections Officer (CO) to CO TWOC assignments are exempt from this requirement (except CO TWOC in Central Office).

- (1) *a start and approximate end date for the assignment;*
- (2) *the reason for the assignment;*
- (3) *the higher-level job classification or additional duties the assignment will entail; and*
- (4) *a description of how the employee meets the METs for the higher-level job.*

2. PSHRDC

- a. *Ensure that classification and transactions/payroll staff process TWOC requests in accordance with Commonwealth policies and procedures.*
- b. *Ensure that TWOC payments are properly and timely processed through Standard Application Processes System (SAP).*
- c. *Ensure that TWOC payments are properly post-audited.*

Section 16 – Overtime

A. General

The purpose of this section is to establish procedures regarding the assignment and appropriate documentation of overtime work.

B. Procedures

1. When assigning overtime work, consideration must be given to applicable collective bargaining agreements and memorandum of understanding.
2. Employees eligible for overtime pursuant to a labor agreement, memorandum of understanding, Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), or the Commonwealth's Personnel Rules shall not perform work outside their scheduled hours of work without prior authorization, except in case of emergency. Affected employees who arrive at the work site early should be directed to a lounge or waiting area, in order to comply with the above provisions.
3. Questions regarding which employees are covered by FLSA should be directed to the Human Resource Office.
4. Whenever possible, overtime work shall be approved, scheduled and the appropriate compensation (paid overtime or compensatory leave) determined, in advance by the immediate supervisor of the personnel involved, and approved through the appropriate Chain-of-Command, and the employee notified in writing. The immediate supervisor shall maintain a log of all approved overtime that, at a minimum, includes the following information:
 - a. date;
 - b. who was approved;
 - c. number of hours authorized; and
 - d. reason for the overtime.
5. The Shift Commanders shall schedule overtime work for Corrections Officers through the completion of the standard duty rosters for their shifts, which shall be reviewed and approved by the Major of the Guard.
6. Source documentation of overtime authorized for processing will be maintained for seven years.
7. In addition to the specific extended leave situations that would justify an extended work schedule, absences of Corrections Officers due to the following situations also might affect the need for assignment of overtime work to other Corrections Officers:

- a. non-pre-scheduled leave;
- b. detached duty;
- c. inmate escort posts;
- d. training;
- e. union business;
- f. military leave; and/or
- g. emergency situation.

C. Employee Self Service (ESS) Users

1. Employees who have been granted ESS access shall use the module of SAP to enter requests for overtime compensation. Attendance type RT shall be used when requesting compensation in the form of pay and attendance type CLE1 shall be used when requesting compensation in the form of compensatory time.
2. Supervisors of employees who utilize ESS to request compensation for overtime hours worked will review the overtime compensation request and either authorize or reject the request via workflow (Supervisor Self Service) in SAP.
3. The Timekeeper will run the appropriate SAP report of entries that require allocation and allocate the activity pursuant to applicable labor agreement, Memorandum of Understanding, Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) or the Commonwealth's Personnel Rules. Allocation will be made using reports and tools provided in SAP (reference the Time Management Process Manual and SAP Timekeeper's Manual).
4. ***Management employees (except Corrections Officer 3 in accordance with Subsection F. below) may maintain a current balance of compensatory quota throughout the entire leave calendar year. Management employees should be encouraged to utilize the compensatory quota within 90 days of when it is accrued. If a Management employee transfers to another agency, the employee shall lose the remaining compensatory quota at the time of transfer. If a Management employee transfers to another facility within the agency, the compensatory shall remain intact.***
5. ***If a non-management employee transfers to another agency the employee shall be paid for any remaining compensatory quota at the time of transfer. If a non-management employee transfers to another facility within the agency the compensatory quota will remain intact.***

D. Non-ESS Users

1. Corrections Officers

All overtime and absences shall be recorded via daily attendance roster or overtime report extracted from the daily attendance rosters. Each roster or report shall be approved by the Shift Commander by electronic acknowledgement or physically initialing and dating the form. The approved roster or report with corresponding **STD-330, Request for Leave Slips** will be submitted to the Timekeeper as the source documents for entry into SAP.

2. Non-Corrections Officers

All overtime and absences shall be conveyed to the Timekeeper through whatever means are deemed appropriate for each work site.

3. The timekeeper will review the employee's entitlements pursuant to the applicable labor agreement; Memorandum of Understanding, FLSA or the Commonwealth's Personnel Rules and enter the activity into the Cross Application Timesheet (CAT) in SAP prior to the scheduled biweekly payroll processing performed in SAP (reference the Time Management Processes Manual and the SAP Timekeeper's Manual).

E. Post Audit Process

1. Each leave calendar quarter (as defined in Management Directive **M530.7 Amended, Absence Program; Appendix B; Definitions**) the Time Advisor will perform a post audit of Timekeeper entries made in SAP. This post audit will be performed on a random selection of five employee records that contain overtime.
2. For non-ESS employee records, the Time Advisor will compare the information for the pay period found on the source documents in accordance with **Subsection D. above**. The Time Advisor will verify all overtime attendances and absences have been entered and that overtime entitlement has been **allocated** accurately.
3. For ESS employee records, the Time Advisor will review that the overtime allocation is accurate.
4. If a Timekeeper processes attendance/absence data for more than one type of employee; i.e., AFSCME and PSCOA covered employees, a selection should be made from each distinct group with respect to overtime entitlements. This may mean that more than five records will need to be reviewed for such a Timekeeper.
5. The **Timekeeper Entry Audit Form (Attachment 16-A)** will be completed by the Time Advisor for each Timekeeper each leave calendar quarter. The Time Advisor will follow up with the Timekeeper regarding any discrepancies discovered during the review and annotate the corrective actions taken on the form.

6. The facility's Human Resource Office will initial the completed audit form. The original audit form will be maintained by the Time Advisor for seven years (with copies of applicable source documents). The Timekeeper and the Timekeeper's supervisor will receive a copy of the packet. Retention of the copies will be at the discretion of the recipients.
7. ***The facility Human Resource Office will scan and email the audit form to the CR, CEN Transactions resource account no later than four weeks after the quarter ends.***
8. ***Central Office will review audits and make recommendations for improving the timekeeping process.***

F. Compensatory Time and Overview for Corrections Officer 3 (CO3) Positions

1. CO3s are exempt from the overtime requirements of the FLSA and, therefore, are not entitled to overtime pursuant to the FLSA. Nonetheless, pursuant to the February 7, 2012 Executive Board Resolution, CO3s are eligible to receive overtime compensation in the form of compensatory time off or cash overtime, at the Department's discretion.
2. The acceptance of compensatory time off in lieu of cash overtime and agreement with this compensatory time policy constitutes a term and condition of employment as a CO3 with the Department. Continued employment as a CO3, as well as accepting overtime assignments, constitutes acceptance of and agreement with this policy.
3. Employees shall not perform work outside their scheduled hours of work without prior authorization, except in case of emergency.
4. Each CO3 will have the option to receive cash at the rate of 1 ½ times his/her regular hour rate of pay for up to 32 hours of overtime or holiday time worked per fiscal year.
5. Each Facility Manager will have the discretion to authorize additional cash payment for CO3s. Payment will be made at the rate of 1 ½ times the regular rate of pay for each hour worked, up to a maximum of 88 hours worked by a CO3 per fiscal year (exclusive of specialty team assignments, for which payment is governed by Section 18 of this manual and Department policy **6.7.2, "Corrections Emergency Response Teams"**). The Department does not guarantee any amount of cash per fiscal year. The 88 hours maximum does not include the 32 hours referenced in **Subsection F.4. above**.
6. **Subsections F.4. & 5. above** notwithstanding, each Facility Manager will ensure that CO3s do not receive cash for more than an aggregate of 120 hours of paid overtime or holiday time per fiscal year (exclusive of specialty team assignments, for which payment is governed by **Section 18** of this procedures manual and Department policy **6.7.2**).
7. Each CO3 will be entitled to receive compensatory time off in lieu of cash overtime for which he/she is not paid in cash under **Subsections F.4. & 5. above**. Compensatory time will be at the rate of 1 ½ times the number of overtime hours worked.

8. At no time shall a CO3 be permitted to maintain a compensatory quota that exceeds 240 hours. Any accrued overtime in excess of the 240 hours compensatory quota limit will be paid in cash.
9. CO3s promoted to CO4 will carry their unused compensatory balances with them.
10. Upon separation from Commonwealth employment or transfer to another FLSA exempt position, other than promotion to CO4, a CO3 will receive payment for accrued and unused compensatory time, up to a maximum of 240 hours, paid out at the CO3's hourly base rate of pay as of the date of the separation or transfer.

11. Procedures

- a. An employee will be permitted to use compensatory time within a reasonable period after making such a request, provided the use of compensatory time does not unduly disrupt the operations of the facility.
- b. A CO3 who wishes to use compensatory time shall submit leave requests via the Department's automated leave request system. Approval to use compensatory leave will be granted subject to the Facility Manager's discretion to maintain efficient operations.
- c. A Facility Manager retains the discretion to schedule a CO3's compensatory time off based on operation or staffing needs.

12. Responsibilities

- a. The Bureau of Human Resources (BHR) will distribute CO3 compensatory leave balances to Facility Managers each quarter.
- b. The Facility Manager/designee shall monitor CO3 compensatory quotas and ensure that the provisions contained in this policy are carried out and that compensatory leave quotas are being effectively managed.

Section 17 - Compensatory Time Policy (Central Office)

A. Procedures

1. Each Bureau must use **Attachment 17-A** as documentation of overtime worked and authorized for such work to be entered on the **STD-929, Time and Attendance Record** with the form *attached*, and submitted to the BHR.
2. Each Bureau must use the **Compensatory Leave Tracking Form (Attachment 17-B)** to monitor compensatory leave accrual, usage, and balance.
3. Union covered employees, in accordance with the appropriate Labor Agreement, shall be compensated for unused compensatory leave accrual. Each Bureau shall use **Attachment 17-C**, and submit to the BHR to compensate employees for unused compensatory leave after the appropriate time frame has passed.
4. Management employees may maintain a current balance throughout the entire calendar year. Management employees should be encouraged to use compensatory leave within 90 days of when it is accrued.
5. Form **STD-330, Request for Leave** shall be submitted to the employee's immediate supervisor for approval, then forwarded to the Division Chief or Bureau Director for possible further action. Request for compensatory leave must be coded "CL" and usage noted appropriately on the **STD-929, Time and Attendance Record**.

Section 18 – Salary Compensation for Emergency Team Responses

A. Procedures

The following procedures shall be used for properly compensating emergency response team members during emergency deployment, ***Department searches, and any training exercises scheduled at the direction of Central Office.***

1. Salary paid to an emergency response team member prior to and during emergency deployment shall be in accordance with the applicable collective bargaining agreement or ***applicable human resource directives. Commissioned Officers and managers have the option of choosing pay or compensatory leave.***
2. An emergency response team member returning to his/her home facility after an emergency deployment, who has worked an eight hour shift including travel, shall be paid for his/her next regular full shift without having to work that shift, providing his/her shift begins within 12 hours of his/her return to the home facility. This includes when his/her return is during his/her regular shift. In these situations, the employee should be charged administrative leave for time away from work during his/her regular shift.
3. If the team member has put in less than eight hours of duty, including travel prior to returning to his/her home facility, he/she shall be required to work his/her next scheduled shift or take appropriate leave.
4. ***When members are paged for a pre-scheduled time or activation they will be paid from the time they report to the designated location. When a member is paged for an unannounced drill, activation or emergency situation they will be paid from the time they are paged. Corrections Emergency Response Team (CERT) members will call with their arrival time. If a member does not answer the page or call with an ETA, he/she will be paid from the time he/she reports to the facility or crisis site.***

Section 19 - Wage Complement Management

The Public Safety Human Resource Delivery Center (PSHRDC), Bureau of Talent Management, **and the** Complement Management Section shall establish and monitor usage of the Department's wage complement. Wage positions in the Department of Corrections are most commonly used for the temporary placement of full-time permanent employees who are off on long-term absences due to injury, illness, military leave, and/or Heart & Lung (H&L) Disability. These employees will remain in the wage positions until they return to full duty, accept placement in another job where they can perform the required full range of duties, or separate from Commonwealth employment. Wage positions created for leave replacement scenarios will be generally limited to security, medical, or other H1 bargaining unit staff. Limited Term Wage positions (usually Annuitants) may also be created for peak workload or other emergency situations.¹ The Office of Administration (OA) conducts reviews of the wage complement at the end of every fiscal and calendar year. The Complement Management Section will coordinate the Agency's response to these bi-annual wage reviews. Wage positions are not to be requested in order to address a shortage of positions in a facility's salaried complement. These positions shall be used only to prevent serious impairment to health, welfare, and security of inmates; to avert irreparable damage to facility operations; or for other cogent reasons.²

A. Establishment of Wage Complement

1. Wage positions are established and managed in accordance with **Management Directive 505.20, "Wage Complement Management and Control."** The Complement Management Section will monitor the agency wage complement levels and will submit CAR-W requests if additional positions need to be created. Human Resource Office (HRO) staff should not make any changes to wage positions without approval from the Complement Management Section.
2. The use of wage positions is appropriate in the situations listed below:
 - a. seasonal work requiring employees for specified periods of time throughout the course of a fiscal year;
 - b. intermittent work where the need for employees will not exist on a continuing basis through consecutive pay periods, but will be required on an ongoing basis throughout the fiscal year;
 - c. emergency or peak workload situations where the need for a position is based on an unpredictable influx of work for a period of time not exceeding six months; or
 - d. temporary replacements for employees on Sick Parental Family (SPF)/Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) leave without pay, Military leave without pay, or H&L/Act 632 Disability Leave.

¹ 5-ACI-1C-13

² 4-ACRS-2A-06

B. Requests for Wage Complement

1. When a Program Manager believes there is need for a wage position, he/she should consult with his/her HRO staff or the Complement Management Section to determine what options for wage positions are available.
2. If it is determined a new wage position is appropriate, the Program Manager shall complete either the **Wage Position Request Form (Attachment 19-A)** or **Annuitant Position Request Form (Attachment 19-B)** and submit the form via the Complement Change ePAR action.
3. The Complement Management Section staff shall log the request, review the justification given, and provide additional staffing or other information that will be used in the approval process.
4. The Complement Management Section Chief shall review the request, make recommendations for approval or disapproval, and forward for final review/approval via the Complement Control Committee.
5. Once the Complement Control Committee has made a decision, the Complement Management Section staff shall close the ePAR request and notify the requesting individual of the approval or disapproval.

C. Extending or Abolishing Wage Complement

When a wage position is to be extended or abolished, the following procedures shall be used.

1. The OA shall conduct Fiscal Year End (FYE) and Calendar Year End (CYE) reviews of all Agency Wage Complement. The OA will create a listing of all expiring wage positions and forward the report to the PSHRDC, Bureau of Talent Management, **and** Complement Management Section.
2. The Complement Management Section will review the list of expiring positions and submit justifications for extension of the wage positions, as needed. The Complement Management Section may request information from HRO staff or various Program Managers about specific positions to assist in efforts to justify and maintain the Department's existing wage complement levels.
3. The Complement Management Section staff will submit the list of wage positions and justification to the OA for review. Upon approval, the OA will have the Human Resource Service Center (HRSC) extend all wage position expiration dates to the next FYE or CYE, as appropriate. Positions that are not approved for **an** extension will be delimited by HRSC staff.

Section 20 - Dual Employment

A. Dual Employment of Employees

The Department may fill a vacant part-time position by employing the services of a full-time person who is already on the payroll of or on a Service Purchase contract with another agency under the Governor's jurisdiction, or on the payroll of the Department. All part-time positions in the 102 Appropriation "Activities" shall be approved by the Activities Managers, Facility Manager, and then approved by the Director of Correction Education as the Agency Intermediate. All other part-time employment within the Department requires the facilities with the part-time positions to initiate the paperwork for Dual Employment. All procedures for seeking Dual Employment shall be in accordance with **Management Directive 525.11, "Dual Employment."**

B. Requests for Dual Employment

1. The Dual Employment Personnel Officer/Director shall prepare form **STD-338, Request for Dual Employment** to include clear justification for classification, rate of pay, and period of time for the services.
2. The Supervisor of Dual Employment signs and forwards form **STD-338** to his/her Facility Manager/Bureau Director.
3. The Facility Manager/Bureau Director reviews for completeness and justification, then signs Head/Designee of Requesting Agency and forwards to his/her Regional Deputy Secretary/Director of Correction Education for signature.
4. The Regional Deputy Secretary/Director of Correction Education approves/ disapproves. If approved, signs Agency Intermediate and forwards to the BHR of primary agency.
5. The BHR of the primary agency (full time) forwards to the employee's Supervisor.
6. The primary agency Supervisor completes form **STD-338**. If approved, signs Supervisor or Agency Intermediate and forwards to the primary agency BHR.
7. The primary agency Head approves/disapproves and signs Head/Designee of employee's primary agency and forwards to their BHR.
8. The BHR sends approval to Dual Employment Agency or maintains file if both positions are in the Department.

Section 21 – Employee Health Benefits/Pennsylvania Employees Benefit Trust Fund (PEBTF)

A. Workforce Management Division/Field Human Resource Office

1. Advise new hire employees prior to the start of employment that there will be an online Onboarding Orientation which includes Health Benefit Information.¹ Advise the employees to contact the Human Resource Service Center (HRSC) for health benefit related questions at 1-866-377-3672. The Bureau of Human Resources (BHR) verifies employee home email addresses and advises new hire employees that an email with instructions to access the Onboarding process will be sent to their home email address by the HRSC.
2. Advise new hire employees without home computer access of local computer resources such as Local/State Library.
3. Employees unable to complete the Onboarding process prior to their start date should be given time to complete the process at the facility during their first day of employment.
4. Current employees with Health Benefit questions shall be advised to contact HRSC at 1-866-377-2672 or to access Employee Self Services (ESS) for benefit information.

B. PEBTF/Staff Wellness Program²

PEBTF administers health care benefits and health educational information to Commonwealth of Pennsylvania employees. PEBTF provides Wellness education through the Get Healthy (GH) program. The GH Program is a program that promotes health and wellness to employees and covered spouses/domestic partners and other dependents. The GH Program is intended to help you live the healthiest life possible while generating cost savings from lower health care claims.

1. Education on Inherent Health Risks

- a. ***A Know Your Numbers wellness screening will give you critical health information – such as a warning that your blood pressure, cholesterol, or blood sugar is high. Then you can immediately contact your doctor for follow up. If you have participated in the Know Your Numbers wellness screenings in the past, you will be able to compare your results to see if you have improved any of the health measures. Screening Results Brochure/Blood Chemistry Results provides ideal range for all testing and indicates inherent health risks if outside of normal range.***
- b. ***The website www.pebtf.org has a list of resources for health-related issues, GH webinars, and educational information available to all.***

¹ 1-CTA-1C-01

² 5-1C-4071-1

- c. www.liveandworkwell.com is another website that employees can find information on health and wellness.
- d. Information on the State Employees Assistance Program (SEAP) is available in Section 22 of this procedures manual and also in Management Directive 505.22.
- e. Information on Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) is available in Department policy 6.7.2, “Special Response Teams.”

2. Monitored Goals and Objectives

It is always important to be mindful of your health and wellness. Awareness is the first step in maintaining and monitoring your health. The Medical Screening Vendor gives you the opportunity to get a quick and easy “snapshot” of your health. The program is designed to help improve your understanding of your health using insights from your wellness screening. It can provide insight to risks and strengths that you can track over time. It can help you find out what you are doing well. If an employee’s results are outside of his/her range, he/she is encouraged to contact a primary physician.

3. Engagement Surveys

The Medical Screening Vendor will survey participants at on-site events, via email, electronically via webinars, and/or paper survey through lunch and learn sessions that are offered.

4. Designated Committee who has Oversight of all Activities

Board of Trustees. The PEBTF, established in 1988, administers health care benefits to approximately 77,000 eligible Commonwealth of Pennsylvania employees and their dependents and 63,000 retirees and their dependents, as well as additional employer groups. The PEBTF is governed by a Board of Trustees comprised of both Commonwealth and Union representatives.

5. Periodic Health Screenings

A wellness screening provides an assessment of basic health status and offers valuable insight into health risks. The wellness screening includes a blood test for cholesterol and blood glucose (sugar) levels, blood pressure measurement, height and weight to calculate Body Mass Index (BMI), and the A1C screening (a common blood test to diagnose Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes or to gauge how well diabetes is managed). The screening is offered to all employees by the Medical Screening Vendor and takes approximately 15 minutes. This screening, if accepted, is free of charge and is to be completed by December 31 every year for employees.

6. Incentives to Encourage Employee Participation

Any full-time employee who chooses to receive health care benefits is required to contribute a percentage of his/her gross biweekly pay for PEBTF benefits (refer to collective bargaining agreements). The GH Program offers the employee an incentive to participate – a health care contribution waiver.

7. Agency Wellness Groups

- a. *Corrections Outreach for Veteran and Employee Restoration (COVER) and Parole Outreach for Wellness and Employee Restoration (POWER) are two groups that provide support, education, and information to employees through email, online posts, and seminars. Activities are planned to engage employees that are both inside and outside of their work locations. Information on these groups can be obtained from the Agency's Wellness Committee and through social media on Facebook.*
- b. *A steering committee comprised of Corrections and Parole staff has been formed to offer support through ideas/programs to the COVER/POWER agency teams. Information on these groups can be obtained from the Agency's Wellness Committee and through social media on Facebook.*

Section 22 – State Employee Assistance Program (SEAP)

A. General

The purpose of this section is to establish procedures for the implementation of the State Employee Assistance Program (SEAP) within the Department. SEAP is designed to aid employees with personal problems that can adversely affect an employee's ability to perform job duties. ***In addition, employees may be mandated to seek SEAP services for Employer Based Referrals (EBRs). All procedures shall be in accordance with M505.3, State Employee Assistance Program Supervisor's Guide.***¹

B. Responsibilities

1. The Secretary shall name a Department SEAP Coordinator and ensure that the Commonwealth SEAP policy is followed.
2. Each Facility Manager shall name a Facility SEAP Coordinator and ensure all Commonwealth and Department SEAP policies are followed.
3. The Department SEAP Coordinator shall:
 - a. ***function as a resource to the manager, supervisor, union representative, Labor Relations and employee on issues involving the use of SEAP, access to services and training;***
 - b. ***provide technical assistance, training and consultation to all Department personnel/Facility SEAP Coordinators and give advice on cases involving employee situations that may warrant on-the-job intervention by SEAP;***
 - c. ***serve as a liaison between the Office of Administration (OA) SEAP, Sick Parental Family (SPF) Unit, SEAP Central Coordinating Office (CCO), Labor Relations and field offices for EBR per M505.3 and ensure confidentiality of the SEAP program;***
 - d. ***assist the field in creating and obtaining the required documentation for EBRs; review all EBR requests with OA SEAP for approval; and forward OA SEAP approved EBR templates to facility for completion;***
 - e. ***ensure all EBR required documentation and copy of signed Health Insurance and Portability Act (HIPPA) notices are sent to OA-SEAP;***
 - f. ***ensure all SEAP CCO notifications are handled with confidentiality and reported only to those on a need to know basis. Follow up on SEAP CCO EBR non-compliance reports by ensuring all facility contacts involved with the EBR are advised and the required employee contact is made; and***

¹ 4-4071

- g. ***maintain records on EBRs and retain these records for one year. Ensure all records are kept locked, separate from all other employee records, and are accessible only to the Department/Facility SEAP Coordinator. Abide by state and federal regulations on confidentiality. No information written or oral can be re-disclosed without written consent of the employee.***
- The Training Academy shall provide initial SEAP training ***information*** to all new employees during basic training, ***and provide SEAP training to all new supervisors within six months of promotion to management or supervisor positions.***
- The Facility SEAP Coordinator shall:
- a. ***provide SEAP training/information/support to new hires and current employees, advise employees of leave options/SPF to utilize for SEAP benefits, post SEAP information, and ensure SEAP program information visibility for employees with/without email access;***
 - b. ***provide technical assistance and consultation to supervisors per M505.3 for all EBRs;***
 - c. ***act as the liaison to the Department SEAP Coordinator, SPF Unit, Labor Relations, OA SEAP and SEAP CCO for EBRs and other field SEAP matters; ensure confidentiality of SEAP Program; attend appropriate SEAP training; and obtain OA SEAP approval for all EBRs;***
 - d. ***collect DC-121, Extraordinary Occurrence Reports/Witness Statements and review the information with the Department SEAP Coordinator for potential EBR. Receive/complete OA SEAP approved EBR templates. Collect and submit additional required documentation to the Department SEAP Coordinator for approved EBR. Attend presentation of EBR to employee and serve as a SEAP advocate;***
 - e. ***notify the SPF Absence Section of pending EBR and obtain SPF eligibility and entitlement status. Notify the SPF Absence Section when a SEAP excuse for absence is received for a self-referral. Advise the facility SPF Liaison to have absences coded as SPF leave for EBRs and self-referrals to SEAP;***
 - f. ***ensure all SEAP CCO notifications are handled with confidentiality and reported only to those on a need to know basis. Follow-up on SEAP CCO EBR non-compliance reports by ensuring all contacts involved with the EBR are advised and the required employee contact is made;***
 - g. ***advise/handle required drug testing for employees' return to work for Self Disclosure (SD)/Commercial Driver's License (CDL). Arrange for employee return to work testing, provide testing forms, have management escort and advise management to ensure employee is to abstain from drinking liquids***

prior to testing. Advise the Department SEAP Coordinator, the facility, and Labor Relations of all positive results; and

- h. maintain records on EBR and retain those records for one year. Ensure all records are kept locked, separate from all other employee records, and are accessible only to the Department/Facility SEAP Coordinator. Abide by state and federal regulations on confidentiality. No information written or oral can be re-disclosed without written consent of the employee.***

6. The Supervisor shall:

- a. evaluate work performance using the Department's Employee Performance Review (EPR) System and M505.3. Inform employees when work performance is not satisfactory. Take appropriate progressive disciplinary steps when work performance is not satisfactory. Encourage participation in SEAP for employees with unsatisfactory performance or behavior;***
- b. ensure the safety and security of the employee, coworkers and facility by evaluating employee "Fitness for Duty" using M505.3;***
- c. ensure employees are aware of SEAP. Restrict oneself from diagnosing employee's personal problems;***
- d. contact the SEAP Management Consultation Line (1-800-662-9206) for advice;***
- e. follow SEAP guidelines for EBRs when appropriate. Contact Facility SEAP Coordinator/Department SEAP Coordinator (to discuss a case before offering EBR option to the employee); and***

NOTE: Appropriate grounds for an EBR referral may exist when an employee's behavior poses a threat to self, others or the workplace; a drug and/or alcohol policy violation; progressive discipline has not been effective in changing an employee's performance; and/or the facility is offering a final change in lieu of termination.

- f. ensure all records are kept locked for a period of one year, separate from all other employee records, and are accessible only to the Department/Facility SEAP Coordinator. Abide by state and federal regulations on confidentiality. No information written or oral can be re-disclosed without written consent of the employee.***

Section 23 – Group Life Insurance

A. Procedures

1. *Prior to employment, the chosen candidate is advised of the Onboarding Orientation process. The Workforce Management Division/Field Human Resources Office (WMD/FHRO) verifies the candidate's email address and explains they will receive an Onboarding Orientation email from the HR Service Center (HRSC) explaining the benefit package offered by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.¹ The WMD/FHRO advises the chosen candidates without computer access of local computer resources such as Local/State Library. Candidates who are unable to complete Onboarding prior to their start date should be given time to complete the onboarding activities at the work facility upon/after date of hire.*
2. *When an existing employee has questions regarding Group Life Insurance benefits they will be referred to contact HRSC at 1-866-377-2672.*
3. *WMD/FHRO will refer an employee/survivor to contact the HRSC at 1-866-377-2672 when an employee is changing beneficiaries, separating, applying for disability life insurance, or when contacted by the survivor of the deceased employee.*
4. The employee shall also be provided with the Prudential Customer Service Number 1-800-893-7316 for when the employee wishes to change beneficiaries; when the employee is terminating service; when an employee is terminating service and applying for disability life insurance; for referring survivors of deceased employees; and when an employee has questions regarding Group Life Insurance benefits.

¹ 4-4048, 1-CTA-1C-01

Section 24 – Modified Duty

The purpose of this section is to make TEMPORARY modified duties available to an injured employee, who has a work/non-work related injury, when operationally feasible so he/she may return to employment. In many cases, lost time can be avoided by use of this practice.

A. Modified Duty

The Department recognizes the benefits of returning injured employees to employment. To expedite that return, the Department is committed to providing modified duty assignments, when operationally feasible, for employees who are able to work in a limited capacity and who will be able to resume all of the duties of his/her regular classification in a reasonable period of time. A modified duty position may be made available consistent with the employee's limited capabilities, but may not be extended beyond 90 days without approval of the **Employee Services Coordinator**. Modified duty is not a right of an employee and may be terminated by the Facility Manager/designee at any time based on operational concerns, or if it becomes apparent that the employee will not be able to resume all of the duties of the employee's classification within a reasonable period of time.

B. Responsibilities

1. Injured Employee

It is the responsibility of the injured employee to ensure the following:

- a. provide updated Physician/Practitioner's Certificates (refer to **Section 26, Attachment 26-D) and Employee Duty Status Report (refer to Section 26, Attachment 26-E)** every 30 days or as requested, which includes the capabilities the employee is able to perform and the prognosis for the injury and/or an anticipated return to full duty date;
- b. contact employer if capable of performing modified duty;
- c. return to active employment on modified duty when approved by the Facility Manager/designee and physician/psychologist or chiropractor;
- d. review medical or psychiatric advised restrictions and sign the **Modified Duty Position Description (Attachment 24-A)** in presence of supervisor;
- e. notify supervisor and Facility Human Resource Office promptly when released to full duty by submitting a completed Physician/Practitioner's Certificate **and Employee Duty Status Report**;
- f. attend meetings with supervisor to discuss current status and date of return to full duty;
- g. submit request for leave in advance of medical appointments;

- h. report any recurrence to supervisor and Facility Human Resource Officer immediately; and
 - i. refrain from performing any duty until approved by a physician/practitioner.
2. Supervisor of the Injured Employee (this applies to both permanent and modified duty supervisor)

It is the responsibility of the Supervisor of the injured employee to ensure the following:

- a. complete the **Modified Duty Position Description** in accordance with the duties to be performed and the employee's limited capabilities;
 - b. review medical/psychiatric-advised restrictions with employee and secure employee's signature on the **Modified Duty Position Description**;
 - c. maintain contact with employee on modified duty, review and document work status;
 - d. ensure the employee is providing updated Physician/Practitioner's Certificates **and Employee Duty Status Reports** every 30 days or as requested;
 - e. inform Facility Human Resource Officer when employee returns to unrestricted full duty; and
 - f. notify Facility Human Resource Officer if employee suffers a recurrence or new injury.
3. Facility Human Resource Officer

It is the responsibility of the Facility Human Resource Officer to ensure the following:

- a. **review all Physician/Practitioner Certificates for possible modified duty release;**
- b. **if necessary, contact the Worker's Compensation Administrator and/or employee's physician, psychologist and/or chiropractor to determine employee's limitations and qualifications for modified duty;**
- c. **coordinate the development of the Modified Duty Position Description with the appropriate supervisor;**
- d. **upon completion of the Modified Duty Position Description, offer the employee modified duty within the restrictions set forth in the Physician/Practitioner's Certificate. All offers will be made in writing, and the Modified Duty Position Description and the medical certificate releasing the employee to modified duty will be attached to the Modified Duty Job Offer Memo;**
- e. **always copy the adjuster, the union, and if the employee is represented by an attorney, the employee's attorney on the Modified Duty Job Offer Memo. Always**

give the employee ample time to prepare for return (a minimum of seven days); and

- f. *ensure that modified duty assignments do not last more than 90 days, and if in accordance with above, it appears as if an assignment may last more than 90 days, then request approval from the Employee Services Coordinator.*

4. Facility Manager

It is the responsibility of the Facility Manager to ensure the following:

- a. review and approve/disapprove all modified duty assignments;
- b. ensure modified duty policy is implemented consistently throughout the facility; and
- c. terminate modified duty when that duty is no longer operationally feasible, or when it becomes apparent that the employee will not be able to resume the full duties of the employee's classification within a reasonable period of time.

C. Guidelines

1. All modified assignments must be for a specified period. (Time limitation renewable at 30, 60, or 90 days and must be approved by the Facility Manager.) The employee must have a projected date of return to full duty from a treating physician. Any approval for a probationary employee or any approval beyond 90 days may only be granted by the **Employee Services Coordinator**.
2. An Employee who is unable to resume all of the duties of the employee's classification within a reasonable period of time, may be demoted or laterally reclassified into an appropriate classification, taking into account the duties and responsibilities the employee is capable of performing, the protections afforded by Federal and State law, and in compliance with Personnel Policies and Procedures, Civil Service Rules, Management Directives, and applicable Collective Bargaining Agreements.
3. An employee assuming modified duty must submit a **Physician/Practitioner's Certificate and Employee Duty Status Report** to the Facility Human Resource Office every 30 days, or as requested, until returned to full, unrestricted duty.
4. If a modified duty assignment requires that an employee be assigned duties outside his/her previously assigned shift, schedule, overtime equalization unit, classification or bargaining unit, such assignment shall be made in accordance with the appropriate Collective Bargaining Agreement.
5. Depending on the nature of the modified duty assignment, it may be advisable to extend the probationary period of a probationary status employee.

6. A supervisor must defer to the medical/psychiatric-advised restriction for an injured employee. (Physical and/or psychiatric conditions must be determined and clearly stated by the attending physician/practitioner).
7. Supervisor(s) and the Human Resource Officer shall meet with an employee returning to modified duty and the employee must sign the **Modified Duty Position Description** prior to beginning the modified duty assignment. (Employee is informed of the restriction placed on him/her by his/her Physician/Practitioner and agrees to abide by the conditions and restrictions as delineated on the **Physician/Practitioner's Certificate**.)
8. If an employee refuses to cooperate in the process to determine the appropriateness of a modified duty assignment, or refuses to report for an approved modified duty assignment, consistent with the medical documentation available, the Employee Services Division shall be contacted immediately to determine the appropriate course of action.

D. Appeals

1. Any dispute regarding modified duty assignments for employees in the H1 bargaining unit, who qualify for benefits under the **Heart and Lung Act** and/or **Act 632**, shall be determined by the **Heart and Lung Act/Act 632** hearing panel as outlined in Article 35 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania State Corrections Officers Association. The Department's Employee Services Coordinator, in conjunction with the Legal Office, shall request hearings in accordance with Article 35 using the **Heart & Lung Appeal Procedures Letter (Attachment 24-B)**.
2. Questions regarding the modified duty program should be directed to the Employee **Services** Section of the Bureau of Human Resources.

Section 25 – Reasonable Accommodations for Employees or Job Applicants with Disabilities

A. General

1. In accordance with the Governor's initiatives on employing persons with disabilities, the employment-related provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, this policy affirms the Office of Administration's commitment to ensuring equal employment opportunities to qualified individuals with a disability.¹
2. Individuals with disabilities shall be treated with respect and dignity and be provided meaningful access to employment opportunities. Directors, managers, and supervisors in the performance of their duties, including recruitment, selection, appointment, promotion, delegation, training, discipline, separation, compensation, and other terms, conditions, or privileges of employment shall not discriminate against any person because of their disability.
3. An individual with a disability is a person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities or major bodily function; has a record of such impairment; or is regarded as having such impairment.
4. A qualified individual with a disability is an individual who satisfies the requisite skill, experience, education, and other job-related requirements of the employment position the individual holds or seeks, and who, with or without a reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of the position.
5. To provide equal employment opportunities to qualified applicants and employees with disabilities, the Office of Administration shall:²
 - a. recruit, hire, and promote for all job classifications without regard to the physical or mental impairments of qualified individuals with a disability;
 - b. make decisions on promotional opportunities based on valid requirements of employment practices, program operations, and provision of services;
 - c. ensure that all personnel actions including, but not limited to benefits, compensation, furloughs, reinstatements, transfers, agency-sponsored training, and education programs are administered in a non-discriminatory manner; and
 - d. provide reasonable accommodations to enable employees with disabilities to perform the essential functions of their position.

¹ 5-ACI-1C-06; 4-ACRS-7E-05; 4-APPFS-3E-04; 2-CI-6D-3; 1-CTA-1C-03

² 5-ACI-1C-07; 4-ACRS-7E-05; 4-APPFS-3E-03; 1-CTA-1C-03-1

6. Reasonable accommodations may include, but are not limited to:³
 - a. modifications or adjustments to a job application process that enable applicants with disabilities to be considered for the position desired;
 - b. modifications or adjustments to the work environment, or to the manner or circumstances under which the position held or desired is customarily performed, that enable a qualified individual with a disability to perform the essential functions of that position;⁴ and
 - c. modifications or adjustments that enable an employee with a disability to enjoy equal benefits and privileges of employment as are enjoyed by other similarly situated employees without disabilities.
7. All directors, managers, and supervisors are to familiarize themselves with and abide by the provisions of Executive Order 2002-05 "Disability-Related Policy" and with Management Directive 205.25 "Disability-Related Employment Policy" and are required to give their full attention to any request for an accommodation from a qualified employee or applicant for employment.
8. An employee may file a request for an accommodation through the Employee Self Service or OA, Bureau of Equal Employment Opportunity RA-OABEEO@pa.gov.
9. Employees or applicants for positions with the Office of Administration who have questions or concerns regarding this policy should contact the General Government Human Resource Delivery Center Disability Services Coordinator at 717-783-5446 or via the PA Relay Service at 711.

³ 5-ACI-1C-07; 5-ACI-2F-03; 4-ACRS-7E-03; 4-APPFS-3E-03; 1-CTA-1C-03-1

⁴ 5-ACI-2F-03; 4-ACRS-7E-02; 1-CTA-2D-03

Section 26 – Act 632 Amended by Act 534

The **Act of December 8, 1959, P.L. 1718, No. 632, as amended by the Act of September 2, 1961, P.L. 1224, No. 534 (61 P.S. §951)**, provides special benefits for eligible employees of the Department who are injured or disabled by the act of an inmate.

A. Administrative Authority

The Secretary/designee is vested with the authority to determine eligibility for payment of benefits under Act 632 as amended by Act 534.

B. General Information

Act 632 provides that “Any employee of a state penal or correctional institution who is injured during the course of his/her employment by an act of any inmate or any person confined in such institution or by any person who has been committed to such institution by any court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or by any provision of the “Mental Health Act” shall be paid, by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, his/her full salary, until the disability arising therefrom no longer prevents his/her return as an employee of such department, board, or institution at a salary equal to that earned by him/her at the time of his/her injury.”

C. Benefits

The Department and the Pennsylvania State Corrections Officers Association (PSCOA) have determined that H1 Bargaining Unit employees who are injured at the hands of an inmate will initially be placed on Heart and Lung Benefits (refer to Section 27 of this manual), but must still be approved by the Department’s Employee Services Coordinator/designee. After Heart and Lung Benefits have been exhausted, the employee may apply to be placed on Act 632 benefits. This applies to H1 Bargaining Unit employees only.

1. Primary Benefits

- a. Full salary at the same rate as at the time of injury shall continue until the disability arising therefrom has ceased or until claimant terminates employment with the Commonwealth; and
- b. All reasonable and necessary medical and hospital expenses (such expenses shall be paid by the Commonwealth’s third party administrator pursuant to the Worker’s Compensation Act).

2. Additional Benefits

- a. Leave accrues during the period of disability. However, all leave accrued in excess of carry over allowances shall be removed in accordance with **Management Directive 505.7, Collective Bargaining Agreement and Personnel Rules**.

- b. Medical/hospital and group life insurance continues.
- c. Seniority continues to accrue.
- d. Supplemental benefits continue, i.e., dental, vision, and hearing.
- e. Full retirement credit continues to accrue.
- f. ***Clothing allowance for H1 Bargaining Unit employees. In accordance with the January 3, 2007, pre-arbitration settlement between the Commonwealth and PSCOA, employees on approved Heart and Lung (and subsequently added Act 632) disability leave shall receive payment for clothing allowance under the schedule as listed below.***
 - (1) ***The employee shall receive full allowance if in compensable status for less than 200 days in the fiscal year where the initial injury occurred provided they were awarded Act 632 and/or Heart and Lung leave. The employee shall receive pro-rata share of the allowance for subsequent fiscal years if he/she is compensable status less than 200 working days for any reason, including Heart and Lung (Act 632) leave.***
 - (2) ***The employee shall receive full allowance if in compensable status more than 200 working days in the fiscal year where the initial injury occurred, despite the Heart and Lung (Act 632) leave. In the fiscal year immediately following the year of the qualifying injury, if the employee is in compensable status for less than 200 working days due to the Heart and Lung (Act 632) leave, he/she shall receive the full amount of the contractually defined clothing allowance. For the third and subsequent fiscal years where the employee is in compensable status for less than 200 working days the employee would receive the pro-rata share of the allowance.***

D. Claims Review

1. The Employee Service Coordinator/designee, Bureau of Human Resources (BHR), shall administer all ***claims involving injury at the hands of an inmate.***
2. All initial claims and any claims of recurrence shall be submitted to the Employee Services Coordinator/designee, BHR, for review and initial determination of eligibility under **Act 632**.
3. Pending a decision on **Act 632** claims, the employee is placed on appropriate leave. If no paid leave is available, the employee shall be placed on leave without pay status. After a final decision is made on a claim, adjustments shall be made to leave as necessary. In no case shall the employee receive more than his/her gross salary as of the date of his/her injury.

E. Responsibilities Prior to Incident

1. ***Before the incident/injury occurs, the employee shall follow all safety rules, policies, and orders, and report all potential security/safety problems to the supervisor and/or Fire Safety Manager.***
2. Before the incident/injury occurs, the supervisor shall orient staff of their responsibility to immediately report all incidents regarding injuries resulting from the act of an inmate and to complete the **Employee Incident Report (Attachment 26-A)** and ensure all safety and security policies are followed.

F. Responsibilities After the Incident Occurs

1. Employee

The employee shall ensure the following:

- a. immediately report ***any and all incidents/injuries to a supervisor***;
- b. seek medical treatment, if necessary, from an approved ***panel provider***;
- c. complete an **Employee Incident Report** available from the Human Resource Office and return it to the supervisor as soon as possible;
- d. ***complete the Notification to Employees of Their Rights Under the Workers Compensation Act (Attachment 26-B) and Commonwealth Employee Workers Compensation Information (Attachment 26-C). Retain a copy of each and provide a copy of each to the supervisor;***
- e. ***if treated by medical staff in the infirmary, have a DC-457, Medical Incident/Injury Report completed;***
- f. provide the field Human Resource Office with a **Physician/Practitioners' Certificate (Attachment 26-D) and the Employee Duty Status Report (Attachment 26-E)** to support claim for benefits. ***A Physician/Practitioner must sign the forms. A signed Physician/Practitioners' Certificate and the Employee Duty Status Report must be provided every 30 days or upon request; and***
- g. cooperate with all requests for information from the Department's Human Resources staff and third party administrator.

2. Supervisor

The supervisor shall ensure the following:

- a. ensure that appropriate medical treatment for the injured employee is provided, if necessary;

- b. accompany the injured employee to the medical facility if necessary;
- c. thoroughly investigate incident, acquire **Witness Statements (Attachment 26-F)**, complete and submit the electronic **Workers' Compensation Claim Report (Attachment 26-G)** via SAP or hardcopy and prepare any written reports as necessary;
- d. **ensure that the employee has completed all required documentation, if appropriate;**
- e. submit the completed **Employee Incident Report, Notification to Employees of their Rights Under the Workers Compensation Act, Commonwealth Employee Workers Compensation Information, DC-457, Physician/Practitioners' Certificate, Employee Duty Status Report, Witness Statements, and Workers' Compensation Claim Report** to the appropriate Field Human Resource employee within 24 hours of the incident; and
- f. **notify the Human Resources Office immediately when an employee returns to work.**

3. Field Human Resource Office

The Field Human Resource Office shall ensure the following:

- a. ensure that the required documents are completed and signed by the claimant and supervisor respectively;
- b. submit all related documentation, forms and information to the Workers' Compensation third party administrator if medical treatment is sought;
- c. forward claims and all documentation to the Employee Services Section for all new cases and all recurrences;
- d. report deaths immediately to the Facility Manager/designee, Secretary/designee, the BHR, and to the Commonwealth's third party administrator; and
- e. **notify the Employee Services Coordinator/designee and the Commonwealth's third party administrator immediately when an employee returns to work.**

4. Employee Services Coordinator

The Employee Services Coordinator's Office shall ensure the following:

- a. review each new claim and approve or disapprove the **claim**;
- b. review any recurrence and approve or disapprove the **claim**;

- c. **for non H-1 Bargaining Unit employees**, provide written decision to the employee with explanation of appeal rights if applicable **using the Heart and Lung Approval Letter (Attachment 26-H) or the Heart and Lung Denial Letter for Non H-1 employees (Attachment 26-I);**
- d. **for H-1 Bargaining Unit employees**, provide written decision with explanation of appeal rights **using the Heart and Lung Approval Letter or the Heart and Lung Denial Letter for H-1 employees (Attachment 26-J) and provide the employee with an H-1 Bargaining Unit 632/534/Heart and Lung Arbitration Appeal Form (Attachment 26-K);**
- e. monitor active claims by requesting medical updates from claimant's physician, requesting Independent Medical Examinations and corresponding with the claimant;
- f. forward **claims** to the Office of Chief Counsel when the **claim is:**
 - (1) **denied and employee files a timely appeal;**
 - (2) **approved but the disability appears to be no longer compensable; and**
 - (3) **approved and the employee fails to provide medical documentation and/or fails to attend a medical examination scheduled by the Department or a third party administrator.**
- g. **for H-1 Bargaining Unit employees**, request a hearing in conjunction with the Office of Chief Counsel, to resolve disputes over benefits or to terminate benefits as appropriate using the Commonwealth's Petition for a Hearing before the Heart and Lung Arbitration Panel (Attachment 26-L).

5. Office of Chief Counsel

The Office of Chief Counsel shall ensure the following:

- a. receive and review **claims from the Employee Benefits Section;**
- b. **for non-H1 Bargaining Unit employees**, schedule an administrative hearing with a Hearing Examiner to determine eligibility for benefits when claims have been:
 - (1) **denied and employee files a timely appeal;**
 - (2) **approved but the disability appears to be no longer compensable; and**
 - (3) **approved and the employee fails to provide medical documentation and/or fails to attend a medical examination scheduled by the Department or a third party administrator.**
- c. **for H-1 Bargaining Unit employees:**

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- (1) ***request a hearing, in conjunction with the Employee Benefits Section, in accordance with Article 35 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and PSCOA when claims have been:***
 - (a) ***denied and an appeal has been filed timely;***
 - (b) ***approved, but the disability appears to no longer be compensable; and***
 - (c) ***approved and the employee fails to provide medical documentation and/or fails to attend a medical examination scheduled by the Department or a third party administrator.***
 - (2) ***represent the Department at hearings held to resolve claim disputes; and***
 - (3) ***review the decisions issued as a result of the hearing and provide implementation information to the appropriate facility.***

6. Secretary/Designee

The Secretary/designee shall ensure the following:

- a. review the report and recommendation of the Hearing Examiner from the administrative hearing and any advice provided by the Legal Services section of the Office of Chief Counsel; and
- b. issue the final adjudication, through the Legal Services Section of the Office of Chief Counsel.

Section 27 – Heart and Lung Act

The **Act of June 28, 1935, P.L. 477, as amended, Title 53 P.S. §637**, known as the Heart and Lung Act, provides benefits for ***employees of the Department whose principal duty is the care, custody, and control of inmates, who are injured in the performance of their duties. On March 15, 2006, the Governor signed Senate Bill 437 into law which expanded the eligibility of Heart & Lung Benefits to all Age 50 Retirement eligible employees. This law went into effect on May 15, 2006.*** Benefits are payable under the Heart and Lung Act only for injuries which occur in the performance of duties resulting in a temporary inability to perform his/her duties.

A. Administrative Authority

The Secretary/designee is vested with the authority to determine eligibility for payment of benefits under the Heart and Lung Act.

B. General Information

1. ***An Employee of the Department, whose principal duty is the care, custody, and control of inmates, who is injured in the performance of his/her duties, and by reason thereof is temporarily incapacitated from performing his/her duties, shall be paid by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, his/her full rate of salary, until the disability arising therefrom has ceased.***
2. In the case of Corrections Officers employed by the Department, whose principal duty is the care, custody, and control of inmates, who have served for four consecutive years or longer, diseases of the heart and tuberculosis of the respiratory system, contracted or incurred by any of them after four years of continuous service as such, and caused by extreme overexertion in times of stress or danger or by exposure to heat, smoke, fumes, or gases, arising directly out of the employment of any such, shall be compensable in accordance with the terms hereof. ***It shall be presumed that tuberculosis of the respiratory system contracted or incurred after four consecutive years of service was contracted or incurred as a direct result of employment.***

C. Benefits

1. ***Primary benefits shall include the following:***
 - a. full rate of salary shall continue until the disability arising therefrom has ceased or until the disability is no longer temporary; and
 - b. all reasonable and necessary medical and hospital expenses [such expenses shall be paid by the Commonwealth's third party administrator pursuant to the Worker's Compensation Act].

2. Additional Benefits shall include the following:

- a. all scheduled pay raises and increments;
- b. leave accrual during the period of disability. However, all leave accrued in excess of carry over allowance shall be removed in accordance with **Management Directive 505.7, Collective Bargaining Agreement and the Personnel Rules**;
- c. *holiday absences for H-1 bargaining unit employees only will not be deducted from the employees' Holiday Absence Quotas during the period of disability. Employees may schedule holiday absences and/or request compensation for such holiday absences in accordance with Management Directive 505.7;*
- d. *seniority rights per Collective Bargaining Agreement and the Personnel Rules*;
- e. *medical/hospital and group life insurance*;
- f. *supplemental benefits (vision, hearing, and dental)*;
- g. *retirement credits; and*
- h. *clothing allowance for H-1 Bargaining Unit employees.*
 - (1) *In accordance with the January 3, 2007, pre-arbitration settlement between the Commonwealth and the Pennsylvania State Corrections Officers Association (PSCOA), an employee on approved Heart and Lung (and subsequently added Act 632) disability leave shall receive payment for clothing allowance.*
 - (2) *The employee shall receive full allowance if in compensable status for less than 200 days in the fiscal year where the initial injury occurred provided he/she was awarded Act 632 and/or Heart and Lung leave. The employee shall receive pro-rata share of the allowance for subsequent fiscal years if he/she is in compensable status less than 200 working days for any reason, including Act 632 and/or Heart and Lung leave.*
 - (3) *The employee shall receive full allowance if in compensable status more than 200 working days in the fiscal year where the initial injury occurred, despite the Heart and Lung (Act 632) leave. In the fiscal year immediately following the year of the qualifying injury if the employee is in compensable status for less than 200 working days due to the Heart and Lung (Act 632) leave, he/she shall receive the full amount of the contractually defined clothing allowance. For the third and subsequent fiscal years where the employee is in compensable status for less than 200 working days the employee would receive the pro-rata share of the allowance.*

D. Claims Review

1. The Act applies to “injuries” in the performance of duties that result in temporary incapacities. “Injuries” are classified under the Act as either occupational injuries or work-related diseases of the heart and/or tuberculosis of the respiratory system.
2. All claims not subject to **Subsection D.3. below** must be reviewed and approved/denied in writing by the facility Field Human Resources Officer.
3. All claims for disabilities related to ***injuries at the hands of an inmate and*** disabilities related to the heart and/or tuberculosis of the respiratory system must be submitted to the Employee Services Coordinator at the Bureau of Human Resources (BHR) for review and determination in accordance with the Heart & Lung Act.
4. Pending the determination on all Heart and Lung claims, the employee shall be placed on appropriate leave. If no paid leave is available, the employee shall be placed in a leave without pay status. After a final decision is made on a claim, adjustments shall be made to leave records as necessary. In no case shall an employee receive more than his/her gross salary.
5. During the initial review, if it appears that the claim is not compensable under the Heart and Lung Act, ***the Field Human Resource Officer shall deny the claim. The claimant shall receive written notice of denial and of his/her appeal rights using either the Heart and Lung Denial Letter for non H-1 employees (refer to Attachment 26-J) or the H-1 Heart and Lung Denial Letter (refer to Attachment 26-K) (the H-1 Bargaining Unit 632/534/Heart and Lung Arbitration Appeal Form (refer to Attachment 26-L) must be attached to the H-1 Heart and Lung Denial Letter only). If the claim is approved the employee must be sent a Heart and Lung Approval Letter (refer to Attachment 26-I).***
6. If at any time it appears that the disability is no longer compensable or the disability exceeds **six** months, the claim shall be forwarded to the Employee Services Section for review and possible action.
7. ***When inmate related injuries become permanent, an employee must apply for Act 632 benefits, This is completed by submitting a letter to the BHR. If approved, the employee shall be awarded Act 632 benefits and placed at the salary he/she was receiving on the date of the injury.***

E. Administration/Responsibilities

1. Before the incident/injury occurs
 - a. Before the incident/injury occurs, the employee shall:
 - (1) ***follow all safety rules, policies, and orders;***
 - (2) ***complete first aid and CPR training, if mandated; and***

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- (3) **report all potential safety/security problems to the supervisor and/or Fire Safety Manager.**
- b. Before the incident/injury occurs, the supervisor shall:
- (1) **orient staff regarding their responsibility to immediately report all incidents and injuries and to complete the Employee Incident Report (refer to Attachment 26-A); and**
 - (2) **ensure all safety rules and policies are followed.**
2. After the incident/injury occurs
- a. The employee shall:
- (1) immediately report any and all incidents/injuries to the supervisor;
 - (2) **seek medical treatment, if necessary, from an approved panel physician for the first 90 days from the first date of treatment,**
 - (3) complete the **Employee Incident Report (refer to Attachment 26-A)** in its entirety, and return it to the supervisor as soon as possible;
 - (4) **complete the Rights and Duties Form (refer to Attachment 26-B) and the Workers Compensation Notification Form (refer to Attachment 26-C), retain a copy of each and provide a copy of each to the supervisor;**
 - (5) **if treated by medical staff in the infirmary, have a DC-457, Medical Incident/Injury Report completed;**
 - (6) **provide the Field Human Resource Office with a Physician/Practitioners' Certificate (refer to Attachment 26-E) and Employee Duty Status Report (refer to Attachment 26-F) to support a claim for Heart and Lung benefits. The Physician/Practitioner's Certificate and Employee Duty Status Report must both be signed by a Physician/Practitioner. These certificates must be provided every 30 days, and upon request; and**
 - (7) **cooperate with all requests for information from the Department's Human Resources staff and third party administrator.**
- b. The supervisor shall:
- (1) ensure that appropriate medical treatment is provided for the injured employee if necessary;
 - (2) accompany the injured employee to the medical facility, if necessary;

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- (3) thoroughly investigate the incident, acquire witness statements, prepare a written report as necessary, complete and submit the electronic **Workers' Compensation Claim Report (refer to Attachment 26-H)** via SAP or hard copy;
 - (4) *ensure that the employee has completed all of the required documentation, if appropriate;*
 - (5) *submit copies of the completed Employee Incident Report, Rights and Duties Form, Workers Compensation Notification Form, DC-457, Physician/Practitioner's Certificate, Employee Duty status Report, and the Workers Compensation Claim Report to the field Human Resource Office within 24 hours of the incident; and*
 - (6) *notify the Human Resource Office when an employee returns to work.*
- c. The Field Human Resource Officer/designee shall:
- (1) *ensure that the appropriate documents are completed and signed by the employee and supervisor;*
 - (2) *submit all related documentation, forms and information to the Workers' Compensation third party administrator if medical treatment is sought;*
 - (3) *review the required documentation and the medical documentation to determine if the incident/injury is compensable under the Heart and Lung Act (unless the injury is at the hands of an inmate, heart disease, or tuberculosis then refer to Subsection E.c.(8) below);*
 - (4) *for a non H-1 bargaining unit employee, provide written decision of an approval using the Heart and Lung Approval Letter and for a denial using the Heart and Lung Denial Letter which provides written notification of the appeal process;*
 - (5) *for a H-1 bargaining unit employee, provide a written decision of an approval using the Heart and Lung Approval Letter and a written decision of denial using the H-1 Heart and Lung Denial Letter attaching a H-1 Bargaining Unit 632/534/Heart and Lung Arbitration Appeal Form to the denial letter;*
 - (6) *request and review an updated Physician/Practitioner's Certificate and Employee Duty Status Form every 30 days or as otherwise noted;*
 - (7) *forward all documentation to the Employee Services Coordinator at the BHR when the employee has been out on Heart and Lung Act benefits for a period of six months or if the disability appears to be permanent or no longer compensable for any reason;*

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- (8) ***forward the claim to the Employee Service Coordinator at the BHR when the claim is related to an injury at the hands of an inmate, the heart, or tuberculosis of the respiratory system. The packet shall include the following:***
 - a. ***a copy of the Workers' Compensation Claim Report, Employee Incident Report, Physicians/Practitioner's Report, and Employee Duty Status Report;***
 - b. ***copies of all related correspondence;***
 - c. ***a copy of the facility investigation report;***
 - d. ***a recommendation from the Field Human Resources Officer;***
 - e. ***copies of all medical reports; and***
 - f. ***any other relevant documentation or information.***
 - (9) ***inform employees who are terminated or separated from employment while receiving Heart and Lung benefits that they will no longer receive Heart and Lung benefits; and***
 - (10) ***notify the Employee Services Coordinator and Comp Services when an employee returns to work.***
- d. The Employee Services Coordinator/designee shall:
- (1) review all Heart and Lung Act claims and contact the Field Human Resource Office for more information when necessary;
 - (2) monitor all claims, which are over six months in duration, by requesting updated medical documentation and corresponding with the employee;
 - (3) forward the case to the Office of Chief Counsel ***in the following circumstances:***
 - (a) ***denied and an employee files a timely appeal;***
 - (b) ***approved but the disability appears to be no longer compensable; or***
 - (c) ***approved and the employee fails to provide medical documentation and/or fails to attend a medical examination scheduled by the Department or a third party claims administrator.***
 - (4) ***For a H-1 bargaining unit employee, request a hearing, in conjunction with the Office of Chief Counsel, to resolve disputes over Heart & Lung Act benefits or to terminate Heart and Lung Act benefits as appropriate using***

the Commonwealth's Petition for a Hearing before the Heart and Lung Arbitration Panel.

- e. The Office of Chief Counsel shall:
- (1) receive and review cases;
 - (2) ***for a non-H-1 bargaining unit employee, schedule an administrative hearing to determine eligibility for Heart and Lung Act benefits when benefits have been:***
 - (a) ***denied and an employee files a timely appeal;***
 - (b) ***approved but the disability appears to be no longer compensable; or***
 - (c) ***approved and the employee fails to provide medical documentation and/or fails to attend a medical examination scheduled by the Department or a third party claims administrator.***
 - (3) ***for a H-1 bargaining unit employee:***
 - (a) ***request a hearing, in conjunction with the Employee Benefits Section, in accordance with Article 35 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania State Corrections Officers Association when claims have been:***
 - i. ***denied and an appeal has been timely filed;***
 - ii. ***approved, but the disability appears to be no longer compensable; and***
 - iii. ***approved and the employee fails to provide medical documentation and/or fails to attend a medical examination scheduled by the Department or third party administrator.***
 - (b) ***represent the Department at hearings held to resolve Heart and Lung Act disputes; and***
 - (c) ***review decisions issued as a result of the hearing and provide implementation information to the appropriate facility.***
- f. The Secretary/designee shall:
- (1) review the report and recommendation of the Hearing Examiner and any advice provided by the Legal Services section of the Office of Chief Counsel for a ***non-H-1 bargaining unit employee***; and

- (2) issue, through the Legal Services section of the Office of Chief Counsel, the final adjudication ***for a non-H-1 bargaining unit employee.***

Section 28 - Workers Compensation and Work Related Injury Leave

A. Procedures

All Department employees who suffer a job related injury are to be provided essential information for the successful operations of Workers' Compensation Insurance and Work Related Injury Leave.¹

Procedures regarding the administration of Workers' Compensation Insurance and Work Related Injury Leave shall be handled in accordance with P.L. 736, No. 338, the "Pennsylvania Workmen's Compensation Act" of 1915, (Title 77 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes), the appropriate Collective Bargaining Agreements, and Administrative Manual **M530.2, Workers' Compensation Insurance/Work-Related Injury Leave Administrative Manual**.

¹ 4-4041

Section 29 – Unemployment Compensation

This section establishes the procedures necessary to carry out the Department's responsibilities under the Commonwealth's Unemployment Compensation Insurance Program. All procedures shall be in accordance with Administrative Manual **530.22, Unemployment Compensation, Non-Covered Employment, Major Non-Tenured Policymaking or Advisory Positions.**

A. Administration

1. To administer the Departments' Unemployment Compensation (UC) Program, the Secretary/designee has delegated authority to the Bureau of Human Resources (BHR), Facility Managers, Field Human Resource Officers (FHRO) and Regional Directors.
2. The BHR has contracted with a Third Party Administrator (TPA) to administer the UC Program and assigns responsibility to the Department's UC Coordinator.
3. The Unemployment Compensation (UC) Coordinator shall:
 - a. serve as the liaison between the Department and the TPA;
 - b. monitor TPA performance and consult timely with Purchasing for contract deficiencies;
 - c. maintain the current Work Location UC Coordinator/FHRO contact list and communicate updates to the TPA; and
 - d. communication all TPA updates/information to the FHRO/Work Location UC Coordinator.
4. The TPA shall:
 - a. respond timely to all correspondence regarding applications for UC benefits by present/former employees or any person filing a UC claim against the Department;
 - b. if requested, represent the Department's case at UC Hearings with Department witness(es);
 - c. request continuance, prepare Department witness(es) for hearing; and
 - d. write and submit appeals when directed by the Department to appeal unfavorable decisions of the UC Referee.
5. The Work Location UC Coordinator shall:
 - a. forward all UC correspondence received at the facility to the TPA;

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- b. respond timely to the TPA for all correspondence regarding UC benefits, supporting documentation and witness identification; and
- c. advise Department UC Coordinators of UC concerns with TPA.

B. Procedures and Responsibilities

The following table denotes the responsible party for specific procedures and lists the required actions that must be taken. Actions appear in the order they need to be addressed.

Responsible Party	Action
Department UC Coordinator	Provides weekly separation spreadsheet to the TPA. Provides monthly UC Report to Work Location UC Coordinator and TPA. Responds to TPA UC request for Central Office employees in a timely manner. Provides supporting documentation and identifies witness(es) for Hearings. Advises TPA of Department UC concerns/issues.
Claimant/Employee	Resigns, retires, is furloughed, is dismissed, suspended pending investigation or otherwise terminates employment may or may not apply for UC benefits.
Work Location UC Coordinator	Ensures detail for the UC-1609 (Attachment 29-A) , utilized for separating employees, has current Employer Information, to include: Department of Corrections, Address: C/O TPA/Administrator, Street Address, State, Zip and name of FHRO/Facility/designee. Signs completed UC-1609 for separating employees. May answer separating employee's general questions on UC emphasizing the distribution of the UC-1609 is standard procedure and does not imply eligibility. Does not counsel employee on UC benefits or eligibility requirements. Neither encourages nor discourages application for benefits.
Local UC Center	Sends UC-45/44/UC forms for completion by employer to the TPA.
TPA	Receives weekly separation spreadsheet from Department UC Coordinator and completes UC forms with provided data. Will contact facility to obtain additional employee separation information and complete UC form(s). Forwards request for pension/retirement information to SERS for completion. Returns completed forms to UC Center in a timely manner to ensure adherence to UC stated Due Date. Maintains library of all UC forms received from UC Center and sent to UC Center for a period of two years post final disposition.

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Work Location UC Coordinator	If UC forms are received at facility from UC Center from Bureau of Employment Security, local office forwards via fax/email to TPA. Responds to TPA request for UC information, provides all supporting documentation regarding employee separation/suspension/pending investigation in a timely manner to ensure adherence to UC stated Due Date. Consults with TPA for direction regarding suspension pending documentation.
Local UC Center	Determines claimant's eligibility for UC based on the reason for separation or low wages. If employer and employee's reason for separation differ significantly, sends forms to the TPA requesting additional information. Notifies the TPA of the determination.
Work Location UC Coordinator	All UC forms received at facility should be faxed/emailed to the TPA. UC forms, maintained by the facility are retained for a period of two years post final disposition.
TPA	<p>Contacts local UC office if a determination is not received within two weeks of the date that the UC-45 was returned. Notifies facility and Department UC Coordinator of all unfavorable decisions to begin appeal process if basis for appeal exists.</p> <p>Requests to know if Work Location UC Coordinator wants to file an appeal. Appeals in writing on all separation determinations made in favor of the claimant if there is a basis for believing claimant is not entitled to UC. The letter of appeal should contain the claimant's name, social security number and date of the decision being appealed if known and reason for the appeal. The letter of appeal should be mailed to the local office within 15 days of the date of the determination.</p>
Work Location UC Coordinator	Advises TPA if an appeal should be filed for unfavorable decisions. Consults with TPA for direction regarding suspension pending documentation and responds to TPA request for decision to file appeal in a timely manner to ensure adherence to UC stated Due Date. May provide additional supporting documents.
TPA	Receives from Local UC Office the UC-46, Petition for Appeal , a notification that the appeal has been filed and that a hearing will be scheduled. Will file timely appeals to UC Center in writing on all separation determinations made in favor of the claimant if there is basis for believing claimant is not entitled to UC benefits. TPA receives UC-46 , a notification that an appeal has been filed and that a hearing shall be scheduled and advises the Work Location UC Coordinator.
UC Referee	Sends UC-53, Notice of Hearing to all parties with date, time and location of hearing.

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TPA/Department Legal Counsel	Arranges with Work Location UC Coordinator to provide Department witness(es) and TPA/Department representative at the appeal hearing. The Department should be represented in person whenever possible. The claimant's former/immediate supervisor or other first-hand witness(es) when appropriate are essential at most hearings. Prepares witness(es) in advance for hearing. Explains the purpose and the format of the hearing to witness(es). Discusses with witness(es) the pertinent facts that should be highlighted at the hearing. A review of the information submitted on and with the UC-45 to UC Center may be helpful to witness(es) and supervisors. Department Legal Counsel is sometimes advisable at the hearing.
Work Location UC Coordinator	Provides witness contact information to TPA. Advises TPA if witness(es) is/are available in person or by telephone; may also request TPA to ask for a continuance if witness(es) is/are not available. Advises witness(es) of TPA witness preparation process. Consults with Department UC Coordinator to determine if Department Legal Counsel is advisable at the hearing.
TPA/Department Legal Counsel	Meets with witness(es) prior to hearing to review case and counsel witness(es). Presents the facts of the case in a clear concise and logical manner. Has available supporting documentation.
UC Referee	Hears both parties and cross-examines as necessary. Failure of the appellant/Department, who has been properly notified to appear at the Hearing, may result in default. Sends a copy of the Referee decision/Order (UC-59) to the TPA/facility.
TPA/Department Legal Counsel	Contact UC Coordinator to advise of Appeal. May appeal Referee's decision to UC Board of Review within 15 days of mailing date of Referee Decision/Order if requested by UC Coordinator.
Work Location UC Coordinator/BHR/Department Legal Counsel	Work Location UC Coordinator in consult with Department UC Coordinator/Department Legal Counsel decides to continue with Hearing/Appeals beyond Board of Review to conclusion of case. May ultimately result in hearing before Commonwealth Court.
Department UC Coordinator	Forwards monthly UC Report and distributes to facility/TPA.
FHRO/Work Location UC Coordinator/Department UC Coordinator	Review monthly UC reports for unsupported charges and notifies TPA to research.
TPA	Receives weekly separation spreadsheet and completes UC forms with provided data. Monitors UC claims processing reports for unsupported charge. TPA will contact UC Center to report unidentified charges. TPA will research unresolved claims that are 90 days or older.

Section 30 - State Employees Retirement System Regional Field Offices

A. Procedures

All procedures governing the administration of the State Employees Retirement System (SERS) Field Offices shall be in accordance with **Management Directive 570.13, “State Employees Retirement System, Regional Field Offices.”** The SERS field offices shall provide retirement counseling services for all members. The purpose of **Management Directive 570.13** is to provide direction to the Department with regard to retirement and related matters for the State Employee Retirement System (SERS) Regional Counseling Center Program.

Section 31 – Job Specifications

All positions in the Department are under the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth's Classification and Pay Plan. All positions are defined and described in written job specifications approved by the Governor's Office of Administration and promulgated by the Executive Board.¹

A. Job Specification Outline

1. Job Title

The official name of a job specification is included in the compensation plan for the Commonwealth. The job title is descriptive of the kind of work performed in the position and indicates, where applicable, the relative level of the job within the job series (Clerk 1, Clerk 2, Clerk 3, etc.). This title is used uniformly for payroll, budgeting, human resources, and other administrative purposes, which is commonly referred to as the "payroll title." This title is different from "working titles" which are used for internal administration.²

2. Series Nature of Work

This portion of the specification will only be utilized if the job is within a job series and will summarize the type of work performed by the job series (clerical, administrative, accounting, etc.).

3. Definition

The definition characterizes the kind and level of work that distinguishes the particular job from other jobs. It may include references to such factors as difficulty of work, independence of actions, consequence of error, work hazards, and supervision received and exercised.³

4. Examples of Work

This portion of the specification lists typical duties of positions in the job. They are not intended to be all-inclusive, nor are they intended to restrict the supervisor in the assignment of specific duties and work standards expected of an employee, which are consistent with the concept of the class.⁴

¹ 5-ACI-1A-08

² 4-APPFS-3E-02, 4-APPFS-3E-10

³ 4-APPFS-3E-02, 4-APPFS-3E-10

⁴ 4-APPFS-3E-02, 4-APPFS-3E-10

5. Entry Level Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

This portion outlines the knowledge, skills, and abilities an applicant is required to possess at the time of employment.

6. Full Performance Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

This portion outlines the knowledge, skills, and abilities expected of an employee performing the work of this job at the full performance level.

7. Minimum Experience and Training

This portion of the specification states the experience and training requirements necessary to adequately perform the duties of the position. An equivalency clause provides for related applicable training and experience. Applicants must possess the stated qualifications as a prerequisite for appointment and promotion to that position.⁵

8. Special Requirements

This section lists any required licensing or other unique qualifications for appointment. The special requirement may be required for all positions or certain positions in a job and may be required upon employment or within a specific time period after employment.⁶

⁵ 4-APPFS-3D-15, 4-APPFS-3E-02

⁶ 4-APPFS-3D-15, 4-APPFS-3E-02

Section 32 – Position Classification

A. Purpose

The purpose of this directive is to address Department and Commonwealth policy and procedures regarding position classification.

B. Definitions

Classification Analysis: A process that involves separating the work assigned to a position into its component parts, evaluating each component, identifying and explaining the link between the work and the recommended job specification for each component, and recommending the most appropriate job. The classification analysis is documented in the technical evaluation as a result of a classification review.

Commonwealth Classification and Pay Plan: The collection of job specifications used by agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction to classify work. An appropriate pay schedule and pay rate are assigned to each job in the plan.

Desk Audit: A meeting between the incumbent of a position under review for classification purposes and a human resources analyst to discuss the duties and responsibilities assigned to the position. Information gathered at the desk audit is utilized in the technical evaluation.

Job: A body of work performed by one or more positions sufficiently similar with respect to duties and responsibilities so that the same title and code may be used to describe all of the positions and so that the positions may be treated alike for recruitment, selection, pay, and other personnel purposes.

Job Specification: A written description of a job that defines and describes representative duties and responsibilities and sets forth the experience and training that provides the knowledge, skills, and abilities essential to the performance of the work of the job. These are accessible at: <http://classweb.state.pa.us/>.

Position: An authorized and individually identified group of duties and responsibilities assigned or delegated by competent authority requiring the full or part-time employment of at least one person.

Position Classification: The allocation of a position to a job specification based on analysis of the duties assigned to the position.

Position Description (PD): The official written statement of the duties assigned to a position and other position specific information that includes the position's purpose, description of duties, decision-making responsibilities, necessary special requirements, and essential functions. The PD is used for a variety of purposes to include position classification.

Position Management: The process by which the decisions are made as to what duties will be assigned to a position.

Reclassification: The reassignment of a position from one job to a different job to recognize a change in duties and responsibilities, to correct an error in the original classification, or to be assigned to a new or revised and more appropriate classification.

Technical Evaluation: A report that provides information about a body of work and the analysis that was conducted to arrive at the classification recommendation/decision. Technical evaluations contain thorough classification analysis and reflect a clear application of appropriate classification standards, derived from the job specifications, in arriving at a recommendation/decision.

C. Policy

Commonwealth Management Directives establish policy, responsibilities, and procedures for reviewing and processing position classification actions.

D. General

1. In accordance with prescribed policy, the Public Safety Human Resource Delivery Center (PSHRDC) is committed to conducting fair, thorough, technically competent, and timely reviews of all classification requests.
2. Position classification decisions are based on an analysis of the work that is assigned to a position and the appropriate jobs within the Commonwealth's Classification and Pay Plan. Job performance, qualifications, and volume of work do not factor into the decision.

E. Procedures

1. Supervisors
 - a. Plan, organize, and assign work as part of sound position management.
 - b. Ensure that online PDs for subordinate positions are prepared, maintained, and acknowledged annually. The online PD application can be found at:
<http://www.occup.state.pa.us/startpages/start.asp/>.
 - c. Recognize changes in a body of work which may warrant a classification review. Update the online PD to include changed and/or new duties prior to requesting a position classification review. Understand that an accurate and up-to-date PD is critical to the position classification review process.

2. Position Classification Reviews

a. Supervisor-Initiated

When a supervisor perceives that the responsibilities of a subordinate's position have changed so that the current job classification may no longer be accurate, or when an employee has questioned his/her job classification and the supervisor/manager

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agrees a review of the position is warranted, a position classification review may be initiated by submitting a Position Action Request (PAR) to the PSHRDC. Although optional, it is very helpful when the supervisor can, in writing:

- (1) describe changes to the work duties; and/or
- (2) identify specific work duties that are believed to be more appropriate to a suggested/different job classification.

The PAR form can be found at: <https://oaiss.state.pa.us/par/EntryForm.asp>. The e-PAR Quick Reference Guide outlines the process and required documentation for submitting position classification review requests and can be found at: <https://home.cor.pa.gov/bureaus-offices/hr/SitePages/Org%20Management.aspx>

b. Employee-Initiated (non-grievance)

An employee who perceives his/her position may be improperly classified may initiate a request for a position classification review, in writing (e.g., correspondence or email message), to his/her supervisor/manager. Although optional, it is very helpful when the employee can, in writing:

- (1) describe changes to his/her work duties; and/or
- (2) identify specific work duties that are believed to be more appropriate to a suggested/different job classification.

Prior to submission, the employee shall seek an updated online PD from his/her supervisor if the active version is not accurate.

Designated staff shall submit a PAR, in accordance with the e-PAR Quick-Reference Guide, to the PSHRDC, on behalf of the employee.

c. Employee Appeal

An employee may appeal the PSHRDC's classification determination of his/her position. Designated staff shall attach the employee's appeal (e.g., correspondence or email message) to a PAR and submit it on behalf of the employee to the PSHRDC. The PSHRDC will forward the appeal to the Office of Administration's Deputy Secretary for Human Resources and Management, or his/her designee.

d. Employee Grievance

If a contract-covered employee perceives his/her position to be misclassified, and his/her contract contains a grievance procedure, he/she may seek the reclassification of his/her position through the grievance procedure outlined in his/her labor agreement. The employee or union representative will forward the grievance form directly to the PSHRDC (ATTN: Director, Bureau of Talent Management).

e. Classification Study

A study may be conducted on a job, job series, or positions in a specific organization or work unit. Such studies may be initiated by the PSHRDC, the Office of Administration's Bureau of Organization Management, or agency management. Purposes for such studies may be the need to revise or create job specifications, due to recruitment or retention difficulties, to determine the impact of program changes, or as the result of a high incidence of classification grievances. During a classification survey, if identical or similar work is performed by more than one position, a representative sample is reviewed rather than a desk audit conducted with every employee.

f. Request to Fill (a Vacancy)

When a program area seeks to post an authorized vacancy, the supervisor shall review the online PD and revise it as appropriate to ensure that it is accurate and up-to-date. Prior to posting, a PSHRDC classification analyst will compare the PD against the prior job classification to confirm whether the position is appropriately classified.

3. PSHRDC

- a. Classification reviews are generally processed by the PSHRDC in the order of receipt.
- b. Typically, the classification analyst conducts an employee desk audit and supervisory follow-up discussion as part of the review process.
- c. After the classification analyst has gathered position information, he/she compares it against job specifications which may be appropriate for the position.
- d. Classification recommendations, typically in the form of a technical evaluation report, are provided to the Manager, PSHRDC, or his/her designee. Recommendations to jobs with centralized approving authority are further submitted to the Office of Administration's Bureau of Organization Management.
- e. Following completion of the review, the employee and his/her chain of command are notified of the results.

Section 35 – Position Descriptions (PDs)¹

A. Purpose

The purpose of this Section is to address Department and Commonwealth policy and procedures regarding PDs.

B. Policy

1. **Management Directive 520.10** establishes Commonwealth policy, responsibilities, and procedures for preparing and maintaining PDs.
2. Each position in the Department shall have a current and accurate PD.
3. Supervisors are responsible for developing and maintaining PDs for the positions under their supervision. Supervisors shall review and update the PD:
 - a. prior to requesting to post/fill a vacant position;
 - b. prior to requesting a classification review of a filled or vacant position;
 - c. within two weeks of an employee filling a vacant position;
 - d. within two weeks of a filled position being reclassified or reallocated;
 - e. when completing an annual Employee Performance Review; and
 - f. when the permanent duties change.

C. General

1. The PD is a critical human resource management tool used to effectively recruit, retain, and develop employees. The importance of writing accurate PDs cannot be overstated. The PD serves as the foundation for all aspects of human resources management including, but not limited to, recruitment and vacancy-based postings, position classification, organization management, training development, and performance evaluation standards development.
2. PDs shall be maintained in the Online PD application at <http://www.occup.state.pa.us>. PDs shall be electronically acknowledged by the supervisor, employee, and reviewing officer.
3. PD content shall be clear, concise, objective, and position specific. Duty statements shall begin with action verbs, acronyms shall be defined, and language shall not be used

¹ 5-ACI-1C-01, 4-ACRS-7E-08, 4-APPFS-1C-04, 4-APPFS-3E-02

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verbatim from any job specification. PD content shall also be written in a manner that is understandable to a general audience.

4. PDs shall describe work that is permanent, regular, and recurring. Duties related to temporary assignments shall not be included.
5. Duty statements shall be listed in the order of importance, shall be preceded by an approximate percentage of time spent, and shall total exactly 100%. The last duty statement shall be "Performs other related duties as required" for 5%; therefore, duties of less than 5% should not be identified.
6. Template PDs may be utilized for certain job classifications and are available on the Public Safety Intranet for position specific adaptation and use.
7. Template essential functions for most job classifications are available on the Public Safety Intranet for reference and use within the PD.

D. Procedures

1. Supervisors
 - a. Plan, organize, and assign work as part of sound position management.
 - b. Ensure that each position under their supervision has an active, current, and accurate online PD.
 - c. Access the Online PD application, which is available within Supervisor Self Service or at <http://www.occup.state.pa.us>, and create or update online PDs for subordinate positions as needs arise according to policy. With pre-approval of the content, designated staff may act on behalf of supervisors to enter PD content into the Online PD application and acknowledge the PD.
2. Employees
 - a. Receive, review, and certify their PD by entering their name in the Employee Acknowledgment field.
 - b. Notify supervisor of any discrepancies between PD content and work performed.
3. Reviewing Officers
 - a. Receive, review, and ensure a PD prepared by a supervisor accurately reflects the work assigned to the position.
 - b. Certify a PD by entering their name in the Reviewing Officer Acknowledgment field which activates the PD.

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- a. Receive and review activated PDs.
- b. Ensure that there is an active, current, and accurate PD for each position.
- c. Provide consultation and training to supervisors and reviewing officers in creating, updating, and activating PDs and using the Online PD application.

Section 36 – Non-Corrections Officer Trainee (COT) Pre-Employment Medical Screenings

This section provides procedural guidelines for pre-employment medical screenings for positions other than COTs. Conditional offers of employment should include information regarding the pre-employment medical screening that is appropriate to the candidate's job title.¹

A. Facility Non-COT *Institutional Staff and Central Office Staff with Frequent Inmate Contact Responsibilities*

Candidates receiving a conditional offer of employment will receive pre-employment medical screenings for Tuberculosis **and** Varicella (Chicken Pox). These medical screenings will be conducted, reviewed, and the records retained within the hiring facility's Medical Department.

Responsibilities	Actions
Human Resource Office	1. After selection and preliminary background investigation have been completed, schedule candidates for pre-employment medical screenings with the facility's Medical Department. Complete the non-medical portions of the Facility Non-COT Institutional Staff and Central Office Staff with Frequent Inmate Contact Responsibilities Form (Attachment 36-A) .
Facility Medical Department	<p>2. At initial appointment, perform first Tuberculin Skin Test and schedule candidate for second Tuberculin Skin Test. Obtain verbal confirmation of Varicella (Chicken Pox) immunity. Complete medical portions of the Facility Non-COT Institutional Staff and Central Office Staff with Frequent Inmate Contact Responsibilities Form.</p> <p>3. Candidates with a positive Tuberculin Skin Test must provide a physician certification that active Tuberculosis is not present, including a report of a chest x-ray. If candidate provides this information, proceed to Step 5.</p>

¹ 5-ACI-1C-15

	Candidates who have not had the Varicella infection or Varicella immunization must provide physician certification of immunization or serologic immunity.
	4. At second appointment, perform final Tuberculin Skin Test. (See Step 3 if test is positive.)
	5. Notify Human Resource Office of screening results.
	6. Retain screening records in secure location within the Medical Department.

B. Facility Food Service Instructors, Supervisors, and Managers²

Candidates receiving a conditional offer of employment will receive pre-employment medical screenings for Tuberculosis **and** Varicella (Chicken Pox). In addition to these screenings, a Conditional Employee and Food Employee Interview Form (available on the **Intranet**) will also be completed. These medical screenings will be conducted, reviewed, and the records retained within the hiring facility's Medical Department.

Responsibilities	Actions
Human Resource Office	1. After selection and preliminary background investigation have been completed, schedule candidates for pre-employment medical screenings with the facility's Medical Department. Complete the non-medical portions of the Facility Food Service Positions (Food Service Instructors, Supervisors, and Managers) Form (Attachment 36-B) .
Facility Medical Department	2. At initial appointment, perform first Tuberculin Skin Test and schedule candidate for second Tuberculin Skin Test; and obtain verbal confirmation of Varicella (Chicken Pox) immunity. Additionally, review completed Conditional Employee and Food Employee Interview Form provided by the Food Services Office . Complete medical portions of the Facility Food Service Positions (Food Service Instructors, Supervisors, and Managers) Form .

² 5-ACI-5C-11

	<p>3. Candidates with a positive Tuberculin Skin Test must provide a physician certification that active Tuberculosis is not present, including a report of a chest x-ray. If candidate provides this information, proceed to Step 5.</p> <p>Candidates who have not had the Varicella infection or Varicella immunization must provide physician certification of immunization or serologic immunity.</p> <p>Candidates with evidence of symptoms or exposure covered on the Conditional Employee and Food Employee Interview Form should be handled according to the information on the Decision Trees and Tables provided by the Food Services Office.</p>
	<p>4. At second appointment, perform final Tuberculin Skin Test. (See Step 3 if test is positive.)</p>
	<p>5. Notify Human Resource Office of screening results.</p>
	<p>6. Retain screening records in secure location within the Medical Department.</p>

C. Central Office Positions with Limited or No Inmate Contact

Candidates receiving a conditional offer of employment for a position which the Bureau/Office Director has determined will have limited or no inmate contact are not required to undergo a medical screening.

Section 37 – Employment/Salary Verifications for Outside Entities

A. Employment/Salary Verifications

1. General

Requests for employment/salary verifications from non-Commonwealth entities for Department employees will be processed through “The Work Number for Everyone,” serviced by the TALX Corporation in accordance with **Management Directive 505.18 Amended, “Maintenance, Access, and Release of Employee Information.”** The TALX Corporation provides this service for agencies under the Governor’s jurisdiction to answer questions from both employees and lenders/verifiers for such activities as mortgage applications, reference checks, loan applications, and apartment leases or other such requests requiring proof of employment. Information is available through a touchtone phone or via the website to verifiers, immediately upon request, and will be conducted in the manner listed below.

2. Responsibilities

a. The **Public Safety Human Resource Delivery Center (PSHRDC)** will:

- (1) designate a TALX Coordinator to receive employment/salary verification requests for Central Office, **Bureau of Community Corrections, and Probation and Parole** employees and assist field human resource office designees with questions; and
- (2) the TALX Coordinator will:
 - (a) respond to requests by sending the requester the **Employment/Salary Verifications for Verifiers/Lenders (Attachment 37-A)** or the **Employment/Salary Verifications for Employees (Attachment 37-B)** which refers them to “The Work Number;”
 - (b) not furnish employee social security numbers to lenders/verifiers; and
 - (c) not utilize SAP or other tools to provide employment/salary information to lenders/verifiers.

b. The Field Human Resource Offices will:

- (1) receive and respond to requests for employment/salary verifications for employees at their respective facility by sending the requester the **Employment/Salary Verifications for Verifiers/Lenders** or the **Employment/Salary Verifications for Employees** which refers them to “The Work Number;”
- (2) not furnish employee social security numbers to lenders/verifiers;

- (3) not utilize SAP or other tools to provide employment/salary information to lenders/verifiers; and
 - (4) contact the **PSHRDC** TALX Coordinator with any questions.
- c. Supervisors/Managers will:
 - (1) instruct employees to utilize “The Work Number;”
 - (2) not personally respond to employment/salary verification requests and instead refer all verifier/lender and employee requests to their human resource office;
 - (3) not furnish employee social security numbers to lenders/verifiers; and
 - (4) not utilize SAP or other tools to provide employment information to lenders/verifiers.
- d. Employees will:
 - (1) refer lenders/verifiers directly to “The Work Number” as explained in the **Employment/Salary Verifications for Employees**; and
 - (2) provide required information as outlined in the **Employment/Salary Verifications for Employees** to the verifier/lender.

B. Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Verifications

1. General

Requests for PREA verifications from Commonwealth and non-Commonwealth entities for current or former Department employees will be processed by the human resource office at the facility where the employee is/was last employed. Requests for employees from closed facilities will be forwarded to the **PSHRDC, Organization** Management Division for processing.

2. Responsibilities

- a. The Facility Human Resource Office will designate a PREA Employment Verification Coordinator to receive and respond to PREA verification requests.
- b. The PREA Employment Verification Coordinator will:
 - (1) respond to requests by researching the employees’ Official Personnel File for disciplinary actions relating to PREA and contacting the facility’s Security Office for any additional relevant information;
 - (2) record the results of the research on the supplied document; and

- (3) return the information to the requester within one week of receiving the request.

Section 38 – Recruitment, Selection, and Placement¹

This section provides procedural guidelines for the recruitment, selection, and placement of candidates in the Department.

A. Responsibilities

- 1. The Department of Corrections, Human Resource Office, Talent Management Division (DOC TMD) shall:**
 - a. develop, publish and enforce talent acquisition policies and procedures for the Department;**
 - b. serve as a liaison with the Governor's Office of Administration, Talent Management Office (TMO);**
 - c. ensure recruitment efforts for all job titles, with the exception of Corrections Officers, Parole Agents and Community Corrections Center Monitors, are coordinated with the Bureau of Enterprise Recruitment; and**
 - d. oversee, manage, and perform talent acquisition functions, which include, but are not limited to:**
 - (1) providing strategic consultation to hiring managers regarding best practices;**
 - (2) responding to applicant and hiring manager inquiries regarding position statuses as well as procedural questions;**
 - (3) monitoring vacancies and approved requests to fill;**
 - (4) submitting job posting forms and recruitment support requests;**
 - (5) ensuring compliance with applicable side letters, collective bargaining unit agreements, merit system guidelines, and TMO policies/procedures;**
 - (6) reviewing and distributing job postings;**
 - (7) evaluating job applicants to determine eligibility;**
 - (8) determining appropriate referral lists and providing to hiring managers;**
 - (9) facilitating interview scheduling;**

¹ 5-ACI-1C-01, 5-ACI-1C-10, 4-ACRS-7B-04, 4-ACRS-7D-27

- (10) preparing and distributing applicant correspondence (interview notices, conditional job offers, final job offers, non-selection notices, appointment letters, etc.);*
 - (11) annotating and archiving referral lists;*
 - (12) receiving and processing selections once all necessary approvals are obtained;*
 - (13) facilitating background investigations, employment and education verifications, and supplemental employment verifications;*
 - (14) preparing and/or determining pay placements;*
 - (15) coordinating effective dates for actions; and*
 - (16) submitting placement actions via the Electronic Personnel Action Review (E-PAR) system and ensuring accuracy of the transaction.*
- 2. The Department of Corrections, Human Resource Office, Field Operations Division shall:**
- a. monitor and manage facility vacancies;*
 - b. submit requests to fill via the E-PAR system for Complement Control Committee review and approval to RA-CRDOCHR COMPMGT@pa.gov;*
 - c. coordinate recruitment needs with the DOC TMD;*
 - d. facilitate interview processes, ensuring that candidates are provided a copy of the position description and a Request for Accommodation Form, in accordance with Section 25 of this procedures manual, when applicable;*
 - e. assist in the development and review of interview questions;*
 - f. provide interview results and selections to the DOC TMD for processing;*
 - g. schedule medical screening with the facility medical department, in accordance with Section 36 of this procedures manual, when applicable;*
 - h. coordinate requests for appointment above the minimum starting salary and exceptions to the pay rules with the DOC TMD; and*
 - i. coordinate effective dates for movements.*

3. Hiring Managers shall:

- a. ensure timely scheduling of interviews;**
- b. utilize appropriate interview questions;**
- c. obtain any necessary internal approvals for selection;**
- d. submit required selection information to their Human Resource Office; and**
- e. maintain interview notes/documentation in accordance with specified retention periods.**

B. Additional Requirements for Corrections Officer Trainee (COT) and Parole Agent 1 Hires

- 1. Applicants must successfully complete a medical and psychological screening as designated by the Department.**
- 2. Medical results remain valid for six (6) months from the date of examination and psychological screening results are valid for one (1) year from the date of administration.**
- 3. If a COT candidate fails the medical examination, they are provided thirty (30) calendar days to provide additional information for review and reconsideration. Parole Agent medical failures are final upon receipt of the medical examination report. Psychological screening results are considered final for both COT and Parole Agent 1 hires at the time of the initial evaluation.**
- 4. Parole Agent candidates must successfully complete an Act 57 verification.**
- 5. Procedures for movement into the Corrections Officer or Parole Agent job series when the candidate has been out of the series or is a current employee that is new to the job series shall include:**
 - a. movement shall be made at the discretion of the facility/parole office management;**
 - b. movement shall not circumvent Section 13 of this procedures manual;**
 - c. movement shall be processed according to new hire procedures with the following exceptions:**
 - (1) a medical examination should only be completed if the candidate has been out of the job series for more than six months;**

- (2) psychological screening should only be completed if the candidate has been out of the job series for more than one year; and**
- (3) the only background investigation clearances required are National Crime Information Center (NCIC)/Commonwealth Law Enforcement Agency Network (CLEAN)/Justice Network (JNET) when a candidate has been out of the job series for less than 90 days.**

Section 40 – Conducting Pre-Employment Background Investigations

Background investigations for all candidates for positions in the Department will be in accordance with **Management Directive 515.15, Identification, Employment, and Education Verification Checks** and **M505.5, Commercial Driver License, Drug and Alcohol Testing, and Licensing Requirements** and processed in the manner listed below.¹ (28 C.F.R. §115.17[c][1], §115.217 [c][1])

A. General Processing

1. Human Resource Offices will submit a background check request for all prospective new hires and rehires that have been separated for more than 60 days to the Office of Special Investigations and Intelligence (OSII) which will contain the following items:
 - a. **DC-96E, Department of Corrections Application;**
 - b. state issued identification or federally issued passport (address must match with the one provided on the application or a change of address must also be provided);
 - c. birth certificate/proof of birth or social security card;
 - d. **Description of Applicant Form (Attachment 40-A);**
 - e. **Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Current/Prior Employer Letter(s) (Attachment 40-B)** (if applicable);
 - f. **DD-214** (if applicable) (copy 4 to include characterized discharge) or **DD-215** (corrected version);
 - g. candidate's explanation of any conviction(s) disclosed, to include the events leading up to the adverse contact, what occurred, the disposition, and any rehabilitative action taken (if applicable); and
 - h. proof of payment plan for outstanding case balance(s) (if applicable).
2. Human Resource Offices will email the Background Coordinator in the Bureau of Human Resources (BHR), Workforce Management Division (WMD), with the name and social security number of all rehires that have been separated for less than 60 days. The Background Coordinator will then coordinate with OSII to have an updated background check completed.

¹ 1-CTA-1C-06, 4-ACRS-7B-05

3. Consistent with the PREA

- a. Prior employment in any type of prison, jail, lockup, community confinement facility, juvenile facility, or other institution (as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1997) to include state facilities for persons who are mentally ill, disabled, or **intellectually disabled**, or chronically ill or handicapped; residential care or treatment facilities for juveniles; and facilities that provide skilled nursing, intermediate, or long-term care, or custodial or residential care will be further investigated to ensure that the candidate has not been found to have any of the following: **(28 C.F.R. §115.17 [a][1], §115.217 [c][2])**
 - (1) has engaged in sexual abuse in a prison, jail, lockup, community confinement facility, juvenile facility, or other institution (as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1997); and **(28 C.F.R. §115.17 [a][1], §115.217 [a][1])**
 - (2) has been convicted or civilly or administratively adjudicated for engaging or attempting to engage in sexual activity in the community facilitated by force, overt or implied threats of force or coercion, or if the victim did not consent or was unable to consent or refuse. **(28 C.F.R. §115.17 [a][2][3], §115.217 [a][2][3])**
- b. Human Resource Offices will be responsible for sending the **PREA Consent to Release of Information Form**, along with the **PREA Current/Prior Employer Letter** to the attention of applicable employer's Human Resource Office, receiving and reviewing their responses, and determining whether the applicant may be hired consistent with the PREA. Human Resource Offices should wait a minimum of two weeks for a response before proceeding with the hiring process. Completed forms will be forwarded to the Background Coordinator.
 - (1) If the answer is "Yes" to any of the questions, then the Background Coordinator will obtain the Office of Chief Counsel's concurrence that the candidate will be considered unsuitable for hire.
 - (2) If the answers are "No" or if no response is received, then the Background Coordinator will ensure that the letter is included in the candidate's appointment package.
- c. Human Resource Offices will be responsible for ensuring that candidates complete the **Position Vacancy Interest Form (Attachment 40-C)** when submitting application materials to job postings. Consistent with the PREA, responses must be reviewed and considered when determining whether to hire or promote anyone.

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Section 40 – Conducting Pre-Employment Background Investigations

4. OSII will conduct a full background investigation and complete the following on all applicants:
 - a. check of the applicant's name, home address, and telephone number(s) against each facility's inmate visitor and telephone lists;
 - b. request a ten year driver's certified driving record;
 - c. access Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) investigative files; and
 - d. in addition, some information that should be solicited, dependent on a particular applicant or position, could include all or some of the following:
 - (1) confirmation of licensing status/certification;
 - (2) professional license/certification verification;
 - (3) military records;
 - (4) criminal justice documentation; and
 - (5) drug-related convictions.
5. When a detailed investigation is completed, it will be provided to the Background Coordinator who will notify the Human Resource Office of the candidate's results.
 - a. Candidates with reports containing no derogatory information may proceed in the hiring process and the Background Coordinator will ensure that the package has been scanned into the Case Management System.
 - b. Candidates with reports containing results of adverse contacts as outlined in **Section 41** of this procedures manual will be reviewed and processed in accordance with **Management Directive 515.15**, **M505.5**, and **Section 41** of this procedures manual.

B. Commercial Driver's License (CDL)

Background investigations for all candidates for positions in the Department that require possession of a CDL will be in accordance with **M505.5** and **Management Directive 505.34, Commercial Driver License Drug and Alcohol Testing Requirements**. All employees in agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction who are required to have a CDL in order to perform their assigned duties are required to comply with this procedures manual and directives.

Section 41 – Employment of Job Applicants Having Prior Adverse Contacts with Criminal Justice Agencies

A. Guidelines

1. The Department will ensure that any job applicant who has had adverse contact with a criminal justice agency will be evaluated as to his/her suitability for employment.¹
2. Consistent with **Public Law 108-79, 28 C.F.R. Part 115**, the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA), the Department shall not hire or promote anyone who:
 - a. has engaged in sexual abuse in a prison, jail, lockup, community confinement facility, juvenile facility or other institution (as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1997) to include state facilities for persons who are mentally ill, disabled, or **intellectually disabled**, or chronically ill or handicapped; residential care or treatment facilities for juveniles; and facilities that provide skilled nursing, intermediate or long-term care, or custodial or residential care;
 - b. has been convicted or civilly or administratively adjudicated for engaging or attempting to engage in sexual activity in the community facilitated by force, overt or implied threats of force, or coercion, or if the victim did not consent or was unable to consent or refuse; and/or
 - c. has been convicted of any offense under the following (or equivalent out of state offense):
 - (1) Title 18 Pa. C.S.A. Chapter 31 – Sexual Offenses; or
 - (2) Title 18 Pa. C.S.A. Chapter 59 – Public Indecency.
3. Also, consistent with the PREA, the Department will consider any incidents of sexual harassment in determining whether to hire or promote anyone.
4. Consistent with the Child Protective Services Law, 23 Pa. C.S.A. §6301 et seq., the Department will not hire anyone who has been convicted of the enumerated offenses in 23 Pa. C.S.A. §6344 (c).
5. Any applicant with an open case balance (without a payment plan); currently serving probation; or currently participating in or awaiting acceptance into an Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD), Intermediate Punishment Program (IPP), or other diversion program will not be considered suitable for employment with the Department of Corrections.

¹ 4-4055, 4-4061

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Section 41 – Employment of Job Applicants Having Prior Adverse Contacts with Criminal Justice Agencies

6. Any applicant who has been convicted of the following will not be considered as suitable for employment in a position requiring the use of a firearm:
 - a. any person unable to possess a firearm pursuant to any of the restrictions set forth in 18 Pa. C.S.A. §6105 (Persons Not to Possess a Firearm) and the person's rights have not been restored pursuant to 18 Pa. C.S.A. 6105.1 or other similar statute; or
 - b. any person who has committed a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence as defined in 18 US Code §921(a)(33)(A).
7. Any applicant who has been convicted of any offense under the following (or equivalent offense in any other jurisdiction), will not be considered as suitable for employment for a position involving the care, custody, and control of inmates:
 - a. any misdemeanor or felony conviction, in which less than ten years has elapsed since the date of conviction or release from confinement, whichever is later;
 - (1) crimes of dishonesty;
 - (a) Title 18 Pa. C.S.A. Chapter 35 – Burglary and Other Criminal Intrusion;
 - (b) Title 18 Pa. C.S.A. Chapter 37 – Robbery;
 - (c) Title 18 Pa. C.S.A. Chapter 39 – Theft and Related Offenses;
 - (d) Title 18 Pa. C.S.A. Chapter 41 – Forgery and Fraudulent Practices;
 - (e) Title 18 Pa. C.S.A. Chapter 47 – Bribery and Corrupt Influence; or
 - (f) Title 18 Pa. C.S.A. Chapter 49 – Falsification and Intimidation.
 - b. any misdemeanor conviction, in which less than five years has elapsed since the date of conviction or release from confinement, whichever is later; or any felony conviction, in which less than ten years has elapsed since the date of conviction or release from confinement, whichever is later;
 - (1) crimes of violence;
 - (a) Title 18 Pa. C.S.A. Chapter 25 – Criminal Homicide;
 - (b) Title 18 Pa. C.S.A. Chapter 27 – Assault; or
 - (c) Title 18 Pa. C.S.A. Chapter 29 – Kidnapping.

- i. specifically limited to convictions of the following:
 - aa. 18 Pa. C.S.A. §2901 (Kidnapping);
 - bb. 18 Pa. C.S.A. §2902 (Unlawful Restraint); or
 - cc. 18 Pa. C.S.A. §2903 (False Imprisonment).
 - (2) crimes involving drug trafficking;
 - (a) 35 Pa. C.S.A. §780-113(a)(12) (Acquisition of Controlled Substance by Fraud);
 - (b) 35 Pa. C.S.A. §780-113(a)(14) (Unlawful Administration or Delivery of a Controlled Substance by Practitioner);
 - (c) 35 Pa. C.S.A. §780-113(a)(30) (Manufacture/Delivery/Possession with Intent to Deliver a Controlled Substance);
 - (d) 35 Pa. C.S.A. §780-113(a)(33) (Manufacture/Delivery/Possession with Intent to Deliver Drug Paraphernalia);
 - (e) 35 Pa. C.S.A. §780-113(a)(35) (Manufacture/Delivery/Possession with Intent to Deliver a Non-Controlled Substance); or
 - (f) 35 Pa. C.S.A. §780-113(a)(36) (Manufacture/Delivery/Possession with Intent to Deliver a Designer Drug).
 - (3) crimes involving the obstruction of justice;
 - (a) Title 18 Pa. C.S.A. Chapter 51 – Obstructing Governmental Operations.
8. Any applicant who has been convicted of a second degree misdemeanor or higher will not be considered suitable for employment in a position whose essential functions require the use of CLEAN/JNET, to include records specialists.

B. Procedures

1. As indicated on the employment application, each applicant for employment must disclose on his/her employment application any conviction, participation in an ARD program, or other criminal justice disposition that occurred anywhere in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or any other jurisdiction. Failure to reveal such information is cause for removal. Expunged offenses should not be disclosed on the employment application and will not be considered.

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2. Applicants with pending charges will be evaluated using the above guidelines accordingly.
3. Any applicant who has more than ten Title 75 (PA Vehicle Code) violations or vehicle code violations in any other jurisdiction within the last five years requires the approval of the Background Review Committee.
4. Any applicant for a position involving the care, custody, and control of inmates that has been convicted of or committed under any of the following within the last ten years requires the approval of the Background Review Committee and Chief Counsel:
 - a. felony;
 - b. first or second degree misdemeanor;
 - c. two or more convictions for non-traffic summary offenses; or
 - d. had a commitment under the Mental Health Procedures Act.
5. Any applicant for a position that does not involve the care, custody, and control of inmates that has been convicted of a summary, misdemeanor, or felony within the last ten years requires the review and approval of the Background Review Committee for job relatedness.
6. In determining suitability for hire, the following factors should be taken into consideration:
 - a. the nature and severity of the conviction(s) and underlying offense(s);
 - b. the time that has passed since the offense, conviction, and completion of sentence; and
 - c. the relationship between the conviction and the position for which he/she is being hired to include an analysis of the nature of the job duties, the essential functions of the job, the circumstances under which the job is performed, and the environment in which the job is performed.

Section 42 – Civil Service Leave of Absence

A. Guidelines

Civil Service Leave of Absence (CS LOA) is a temporary interruption of civil service status. CS LOA definition and all procedures for seeking CS LOA will be in accordance with Management Directive 580.30 Amended, Civil Service Leave of Absence and Return Rights.

B. Responsibilities

1. Employees will:

- a. read and become familiar with Management Directive 580.30 Amended, Civil Service Leave of Absence and Return Rights;
- b. request in writing and obtain approval for a CS LOA prior to effective date of placement into a non-civil service position;
- c. request in writing and obtain approval for an extension of CS LOA from the Bureau of Human Resources (BHR) within 14 calendar days of date of renewal reminder correspondence;
- d. submit a formal request in writing to the Director, BHR, when exercising right to return; and
- e. meet the Minimum Experience and Training requirements for job title to which being returned (when applicable).

2. The BHR will:

- a. receive and review initial CS LOA requests and requests for extension for appropriateness and timeliness;
- b. provide written notification of approval or disapproval to the employee and ensure his/her Human Resource Office is notified;
- c. ensure the employee's civil service status is updated accordingly in SAP;
- d. notify employee two weeks prior to the expiration of his/her CS LOA;
- e. establish and maintain a CS LOA tracking system;
- f. ensure requests and notifications are completed timely and accurately;
- g. ensure that upon expiration of CS LOA, there is a position to which the employee can return to, if a guaranteed right of return and if requested by the employee; and

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- h. coordinate with the State Civil Service Commission when employees are unable to be returned to a civil service covered job.
- 3. Field Human Resource Offices will:
 - a. refer employees to the Director, BHR, when requesting CS LOA; and
 - b. coordinate with the BHR to have a position available to which an employee can return to, if guaranteed a right of return and if requested by the employee.

C. Procedures

- 1. Employees submit either an initial written request, prior to effective date of placement into non-civil service position, or request for an extension of CS LOA in writing to the Director, BHR.
- 2. The Director, BHR will review the request and provide written notification to the employee indicating approval/disapproval. If approved, the notice will include the start and end date of the CS LOA, along with the employee's reemployment rights.
- 3. Employees will receive written notification that their CS LOA is expiring 14 calendar days prior to the end date. If an employee does not respond to the notification, the employee's civil service status will be removed.

Section 43 – Interns

A. Responsibilities

1. The Director, Bureau of Human Resources (BHR), is responsible for monitoring the use of paid and unpaid interns (herein referred to as “interns” unless otherwise specified) throughout the Department.
2. The Chief, Workforce Management Division (WMD), should serve as the primary designee to ensure that facilities and bureaus direct, plan, and coordinate intern services for the Department in accordance with this Section.
3. The Facility Manager/Bureau Director is responsible for monitoring the use of interns within their facility/bureau and ensuring that the goals, objectives, types of services offered, and population served is in accordance with this Section.
4. The Field Human Resource Officer (FHRO) or Chief, WMD, should oversee the Internship Coordinator (IC).
5. The FHRO or Chief, WMD, in coordination with the IC, should establish a maximum number of interns per program, so that the number of interns used in the facility/bureau remains manageable, yet maximizes the use of interns within the facility/bureau.
6. The IC will:
 - a. coordinate the internship program and services to ensure that they operate in accordance with this policy;
 - b. recruit and schedule interns as follows:
 - (1) emphasize equal employment opportunity throughout all recruiting efforts;
 - (2) utilize interns in as many diverse program areas as possible to include, but not be limited to; procurement, human resources, information technology, medical, psychological, administration, correctional industries, and operations; and
 - (3) review internship proposals for services from any school of higher education requesting internship resources and prepare a recommendation for submittal to the Facility Manager/Director, BHR, for approval. Approval will be based on the operational needs as determined solely by the Department.
 - c. confirm with the Department’s Office of Chief Counsel that a Student Internship Agreement exists with the school that the intern attends. If no agreement exists, serve as a liaison between the Office of Chief Counsel and the school internship coordinator to establish the necessary agreement;

- d. function as a liaison between the Department and the school internship coordinator and oversee internships, ensuring that appropriate supervision for interns is provided in accordance with this policy; and
- e. respond to requests from the WMD for reports and information.

B. Guidelines

1. Current Department employees and contract service providers are not permitted to serve as an intern for any inmate program unless written permission is granted by the Facility Manager/Director, BHR.
2. Interns do not take the place of staff, but instead are permitted to assist Department staff with duties that are commensurate with their education, experience, and training.
3. Proper escort of interns to and from the program area should be provided as deemed necessary by the Facility Manager.
4. An employee or contract service provider should provide intermittent supervision while a fully oriented intern is in the facility.

C. Procedures

1. Paid interns selected for employment in the Department should be hired in accordance with **Sections 38 and 40** of this procedures manual and should receive proper orientation provided through the New Employee Orientation Process in accordance with Department policy **5.1.1, “Staff Development and Training Procedures Manual,” Section 2.**
2. Unpaid interns selected for employment should be processed in accordance with Department policy **1.1.4, “Centralized Clearances Procedures Manual,” Section 4,** and are required to complete the **Non-Paid Intern Consent/Waiver Form (Attachment 43-A).**

D. Separation of Interns

1. Interns should be separated in accordance with **Section 51** of this procedures manual.
 - a. An intern may be separated when the internship assignment has been successfully completed.
 - b. An intern may be terminated by the Facility Manager/Director, BHR when it is determined that the intern by his/her behavior, indicates an inability or unwillingness to function within the structure, rules, and regulations of the facility.
2. The Facility Security Office will immediately deactivate the individual’s identification card and biometrics access (if applicable).

Section 44 – Leave Management Program

A. Procedures

1. All leave entitlements are to be administered in accordance with **Management Directive Manual M530.7, Absence Program.**¹
2. All technical procedures in the SAP computer system for leave management shall be in accordance with the Time Processes Manual and any applicable Business Process Procedures (BPP's). ***These documents are located on the HR Professionals Portal of the Office of Administration's website. The current website location is:***

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=4259&&SortOrder=5&level=3&parentid=3937&css=L3&mode=2&in_hi_userid=423492&cached=true

3. ***Select the “How To’s” tab to access the Time Processes Manual and the BPP’s.***

¹ 4-4048, 4-ACRS-7E-07, 1-CTA-1C-01

Section 45 - Department Office Hours and Lunch Periods

The purpose of this section is to outline official hours of work and lunch periods for employees who receive unpaid lunch periods in the Department.¹

A. Official Business Hours of the Department

1. The official business hours of the Department are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This does not mean that all employees must work from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Rather, each administrative office must have adequate coverage between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. An employee shall work either 7.5 hours (37.5 hr. week) or 8 hours (40 hr. week) with a one-half hour lunch period or one hour, if approved by the Facility Manager. Exception: All CO5s (Majors) are required to take a one-hour lunch period.
2. All Department administrative offices are to be appropriately staffed for operation during the official hours of work and be available for the transaction of public business. This applies to all administrative offices in facilities/offices operated by the Department and for all employees with unpaid meal periods.
3. A facility/office may authorize employees to work hours outside the official business hours of work in order to meet special program or operational needs, to accommodate employees participating in car pools, or for other compelling reasons, provided such accommodation does not impair the operational efficiency of the facility/office.

B. Lunch Periods

The period for lunch is either one-half hour or one hour per day as operationally necessary.

¹ 1-CTA-1C-01

Section 46 – Leave Procedures for Employee Interviews

A. Lateral Transfer, Promotion, and Demotion Interviews within the Department

1. Employees who are currently employed by the Department and scheduled to interview for positions within the Department shall be permitted time off from their regular work assignment for travel and participation in an interview with no loss of annual, personal, or combined leave. Every attempt shall be made to schedule the interview during a regularly scheduled day off or outside of the employee's normal work shift. ***Any absence taken beyond the time to travel and attend the interview will be charged against an appropriate leave type.***
2. Time ***spent*** off regularly scheduled work assignments to attend interviews within the Department shall be considered regular hours worked and **NOT** charged as administrative leave.
3. No overtime shall be paid for attending an interview, ***except as outlined in Subsection B. below.***
4. All expenses incurred to attend an interview, ***except as outlined in Subsection B. below, are the responsibility of the employee, NO reimbursement will be made.***
5. ***The use of State Vehicles to attend interviews is prohibited, except as outlined in Subsection B. below.***

B. Interviews for Specialized Assignments within the Department

1. All expenses incurred to attend an interview for an assignment to one of the Department's specialized areas (Detached Duty, Correctional Emergency Response Team (CERT), Fire Emergency Response Team (FERT), Corrections Rifle Specialist Team (CRST), Hostage Rescue Team (HRT), Hostage Negotiations Team (HNT), Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM), and Drug Interdiction Unit (DIU) including transportation cost), are reimbursable in accordance with **Management Directive 230.10, "Travel and Subsistence Allowance."**
2. Interviews shall be scheduled during normal working hours. Overtime may be authorized by the appropriate approving authority in accordance with **Management Directive 525.15, "Overtime."**

C. Interview with other Commonwealth Agencies

1. Department employees interviewing for positions with other State Agencies shall be required to use personal, annual, or combined leave for time off to attend the interview.
2. All expenses, including transportation costs, are the sole responsibility of the employee and are not reimbursable.

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3. Employees shall follow the standard operating procedure of their Facility, Bureau, Division or Section that is used when requesting time off from regularly scheduled work assignments. ***Each facility will attempt to accommodate an employee with approved leave, provided that the employee demonstrates proof of interview date/time.***

Section 47 - Emergency Assignment of Employees during Emergencies

In the event of an emergency, employees may be assigned other duties and may be temporarily reassigned to other facilities or other Commonwealth agencies as deemed necessary by the Secretary/designee.¹

A. Declaration of Emergency

1. The Secretary/designee may declare an emergency affecting the health, safety, and welfare of employees and/or inmates in the Department.
2. The Secretary of Administration may declare an emergency affecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public and/or employees/residents of other Commonwealth agencies.

B. Emergency Assignment of Employees

1. Department Emergencies
 - a. All Department employees are considered to be essential employees and may be assigned as required by the Secretary/designee. In the event of a declared emergency, all Department personnel are to carry their RED Emergency Response Card on their person for appropriate identification to authorities as required by **Management Directive 505.11, "Emergency Assignments of Employees during Emergencies."**
 - b. All Corrections Education employees represented by CIVEA may be assigned other duties within his/her facility in the event of an emergency consistent with the language of their collective bargaining agreement.
 - c. In the event that employees are assigned to perform duties outside of their usual classification, they shall be notified accordingly, and the affected labor union representative(s) shall be notified as soon as the emergency permits.
 - d. Employees assigned to work in a higher classification during an emergency shall be paid in accordance with **Management Directive 525.4, "Temporary Assignment in Higher Classification."**
 - e. Employees required to work at an alternate work assignment shall be given as much notice as possible as to the location and expected duration of the temporary assignment. Travel, lodging, and subsistence shall be paid in accordance with established policy. The affected labor union representative(s) shall be provided as much advance notice as possible of the proposed assignments.
 - f. If the nature of the emergency requires the assistance of other Commonwealth agencies, the Secretary shall contact the Secretary of Administration, specifying:

¹ 4-ACRS-2A-06

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- (1) the number of people needed by location, skills, and job classification(s);
 - (2) the reason the emergency assistance is needed; and
 - (3) the anticipated duration of the temporary assignment(s).
- g. The affected labor union representative(s) shall be notified as soon as the emergency permits.
- h. The Secretary/designee may also assign bargaining unit work in the event of an emergency to volunteers, vendors/contractors, or other non-bargaining unit personnel and/or overtime equalization units. The affected labor union representative(s) shall be notified as soon as the emergency permits.
- i. The Secretary/designee may also choose to re-employ Commonwealth annuitants in the event of an emergency subject to approval by the Office of Administration.
2. Other (non-Department) Commonwealth Emergencies
- a. In the event that the Secretary of Administration contacts the Secretary/designee, requesting the reassignment of Department employees to other Commonwealth agencies during an emergency, the Secretary/designee shall first ensure that Department program areas essential to the health, safety, and welfare of corrections staff and inmates are adequately manned. Any employees not needed to maintain essential programs and services may be released to other Commonwealth agencies for emergency purposes as requested by the Secretary of Administration. A list of available employees by name, classification, and location shall be provided to the Secretary of Administration.
- b. Employees selected for temporary reassignment shall be advised with as much notice as possible as to when, where, to whom to report, and the anticipated duration of the assignment. The affected labor union representative(s) shall be notified as soon as the emergency permits. Emergency reassignments shall be made in accordance with labor union agreements. Travel, lodging, and subsistence shall be paid in accordance with established policy.
- c. In the event that employees are assigned to perform duties outside of their usual classification, they shall be notified accordingly, and the affected labor union representative(s) shall be notified as soon as the emergency permits.
- d. Employees assigned to work in a higher classification during an emergency shall be paid in accordance with **Management Directive 525.4**.

Section 48 – Early and Full-Day Closings

Early and full-day closings for **Commonwealth** employees fall under the jurisdiction of Commonwealth Offices under the Governor and shall be in accordance with **Management Directive 530.17, Partial and Full-Day Closing of State Offices**.

A. Definitions

1. An office closing is defined by:
 - a. a partial or full-day closing when it is deemed necessary to suspend operations within the Department of Corrections **and PA Board of Probation and Parole (all hereinafter referred to as “Department”)** for Non-Essential employees due to events in the local area like severe weather, natural disaster, fire, or any other related hazard where it is operationally feasible and consideration has been given in balancing the health, safety, and welfare of our employees with the need to continue essential services and operations; and
 - b. a partial or full-day closing for Non-Essential employees not related to an emergency, as authorized by the Governor’s Office.
2. **Department – includes all employees with a direct reporting relationship up through the Secretary of Corrections.**

B. General

1. All Department employees in classifications eligible for Age 50 or 55 retirement are considered Essential and are required to work, as scheduled, during all authorized office closings.
2. Employees in classifications eligible for Age 60 or 65 retirement are considered Non-Essential. Non-Essential employees may be required to work during office closings, at the discretion of the Facility Manager or Deputy Secretary, if the employee’s specific job duties must be performed to meet deadlines or to perform work deemed essential to maintain efficient operations of their assigned workplace **(this includes temporarily working out of class in a position that is deemed essential)**.
3. Partial or full-day **office** closings **or dismissals not related to an emergency must be authorized by the Governor’s Office.**
4. **Emergency-related partial or full-day closings** announced by the Office of Administration (OA) only apply to the Philadelphia, Scranton, Reading, and Pittsburgh State Office Buildings, and the State Offices with a Harrisburg mailing address. **The following will be included in closings or delays for the “Harrisburg area:” Riverfront Office Center (ROC), 1920 Technology Parkway Office, Correctional Industries at Central Office, State Correctional Institution (SCI) Camp Hill, Bureau**

of Community Corrections (BCC) Region 2, Harrisburg District Office, Harrisburg Community Corrections Center (CCC), and Elizabethtown Training Academy.

5. *All emergency-related partial or full-day closings pertaining to Department-occupied facilities not described in Subsection B.4. above must be authorized by the Executive Deputy Secretary for Institutional Operations (EDSI) or the Executive Deputy Secretary for Community Corrections and Reentry (EDSC) prior to being announced to staff, with notification given to the Secretary, Executive Deputy Secretary, and the Human Resources (HR) Manager of the Public Safety Delivery Center.*
6. *All closings and delays shall be relayed to employees through the authorized Commonwealth Notification System. No other notification will be provided. Employees who may be eligible for a closing or delay must sign up to receive these notifications.*
7. Essential and Non-Essential employees who work during an office closing shall not be granted additional time off for hours worked during their regular work schedule. Employees shall be paid at the appropriate rate of pay.
8. *Hours for which such employees are paid, but do not work because of an authorized closing, will not be counted as hours worked for overtime purposes.*
9. The Pennsylvania State Police (PSP), Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA), and local police have been informed to allow **Department** employees that are considered Essential and possess an Emergency Response ID Badge to proceed to work. If employees are prohibited from reporting to work by police or emergency personnel, employees must notify their assigned workplace and documentation is required to be provided upon return to work. If documentation is unattainable, employees are required to provide the name and company/organization of emergency personnel for verification purposes.
10. Department employees who are Essential, who do not report to work as scheduled due to hazardous weather, extreme conditions, or instances as described in **Subsection B.9. above** shall be permitted to use **appropriate paid leave** at the discretion of the Facility Manager/**Institutional Regional Director**, or **approved unpaid leave upon written request to, and approval by, the EDSI/EDSC.**
11. Essential employees desiring to leave work before the end of a regular shift due to hazardous weather or extreme conditions, **upon approval by the Facility Manager/Institutional Regional Director**, may be permitted to use **appropriate paid leave**, or **approved unpaid leave upon written request to, and approval by, the EDSI/EDSC.**
12. *All employees assigned to a state correctional facility will follow the closings or delays for that facility, regardless of their reporting agency.*

13. ***Employees in classifications identified under the Office of Probation and Parole Field Supervision, Board of Central Services as Operations Center Monitor and Operations Center Supervisor are Essential and required to report to their assigned location on time for duty.***
14. ***Employees in classifications eligible for Age 50 or 55 retirement under the supervision of the Office of Probation and Parole Field Supervision, Parole Supervision Staff may, at the discretion of the EDSC, be required to report to their duty location, or may be permitted to leave/not report to their duty location, but be required to report when requested during the closing. These employees must be accessible via their Department issued cellular phone, or other self-identified phone, for the duration of either the paid office closing or their shift (whichever is shorter) and be ready for assignment, awaiting further direction/assignment from their supervisor. During this time, employees are subject to all Commonwealth and Department policies, management directives, procedures, etc.***

C. Responsibilities

1. Employees

- a. ***Essential employees are to report to work timely, as required.***
- b. ***Non-Essential employees:***
 - (1) ***sign up for alerts through the authorized Commonwealth Notification System and update contact information as appropriate; and***
 - (2) ***promptly enter appropriate leave in employee self-service (ESS) for any period of time utilized as a paid office closing (POC). If ESS is not used, employees must submit a leave request for POC as appropriate.***
- c. ***Sign off on the appropriate Essential Function Notification Memo (Attachment 48-A) or Non-Essential Function Notification Memo (Attachment 48-B) at the time of hire and when changing from an Essential to Non-Essential designation or vice versa.***

2. Field District Directors/Deputy District Directors

- a. ***Report any requests for a closing or delay to their Field Regional Director.***
- b. ***Provide specific information as to why a request is being made, such as weather reports, weather alerts, electric company information, etc.***
- c. ***Upon receipt of the decision, may notify staff if they are in the office; otherwise, alerts will only be sent out via the authorized Commonwealth Notification System.***

3. Superintendents/Parole Field Regional Directors

- a. **Notify the management operations center (MOC) of any requests for a delay or closure.**
- b. **For a partial closing in the morning or a full-day closure, requests should be submitted to the MOC before 5am.**
- c. **For a facility-specific closure, contact the respective Regional Deputy/Director, providing reason and duration of request. Examples may include: water damage in the building, localized flooding, an extended power outage, etc.**

4. Management Operations Center (MOC)

- a. **Receive calls or emails requesting a facility delay or closure.**
- b. **Review the Region Chart (Attachment 48-C) to determine what areas may be included in the requested delay or closing and reference the most current list of Executive Staff for contact information. Coordinate all requests and send to both EDSC and EDSI for review. Upon receipt of the decisions, if opposing decisions, communicate with both EDSs to determine if a singular decision can be made for the affected region or sub-region.**
- c. **Upon approval, coordinate communication to all affected staff using the authorized Commonwealth Notification System and posting it on all internal websites.**
- d. **For a partial closing in the morning or a full-day closure, approvals should be distributed by 5am, or as soon as possible.**
- e. **Email all approved delays or closings to the HR Manager, Public Safety Delivery Center.**
- f. **For each consecutive full-day closing, notification is to be sent out by 5pm the day prior.**
- g. **MOC Contact Information: Phone: 1-844-429-5412 (a recorded line)
 Email: CR, BCC MOC**

5. EDSI/EDSC

- a. **Review requests sent from the MOC to determine if a delay or closure is appropriate.**
- b. **Notify the MOC of approval or denial of each request, indicating regions, sub-regions, or specific facilities that will be affected.**

- c. ***Coordinate regional or local closings or delays with the other Executive Deputy Secretary, as appropriate.***
- 6. ***HR Manager, Public Safety Delivery Center***
 - a. ***Receive notification of approved delays or closings from the MOC.***
 - b. ***Notify OA of any approved delays or closings.***
 - c. ***Notify affected employee unions of any approved delays or closings.***
 - d. ***Provide employees with annual notification of*** Essential/Non-Essential designation at the beginning of each year.
- 7. Facility Human Resource ***Office***

Notify employees of their Essential/Non-Essential designation by reviewing and signing off on the **Essential Function Notification Memo** or **Non-Essential Function Notification Memo** at the time ***an employee is hired*** and ***changes*** from an Essential to Non-Essential designation or vice versa.

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Section 49 - Military Leaves of Absence

The purpose of this section is to outline the responsibilities and procedures for authorizing Military Absences with or without pay, as well as procedures pertaining to any employee on a Military Absence. Procedures are pursuant to the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, codified at 38 U.S. Code, §§4301-4333.

A. Action by Employee

1. Any employee/service member must provide his/her employer with advance notice of military service. The employee/service member has the option to provide advance notice either verbally or in writing.
2. An employee is required to provide written orders either before or after all military service.
3. The employee must submit the **Verification of Attendance at Military Obligations Form (Attachment 49-A)** to his/her supervisor upon completion of the military duty in order for the employee to receive a paid military absence, which is limited to 15 days per calendar year.
4. ***The employee is not required to submit the Verification of Attendance at Military Obligations Form to his/her supervisor for the granting of an unpaid military absence, unless the military obligation is 31 days or more.***
5. ***In accordance with Chapter 8, Subchapter C, Section 8.132 of the Personnel Rules (Management Directive 505.7, Amended, February 24, 1998), upon release from active duty, an employee may request a Military Absence Without Pay Without Benefits for up to a set amount of days, as specified in the Personnel Rules, before returning to work. The employee must provide documentation, which indicates his/her release from active duty date.***

B. Action by Supervisor

1. Review military orders and/or annual training schedule. Any questions regarding validity of the military orders must be directed to the Field Human Resource Officer.
2. Request the employee to submit a **STD 330, Request for Leave or Employee Self Service (ESS) Leave Request**, along with military orders as far in advance of the training and/or military obligation as possible.
3. Submit approved **STD 330** or with documentation to timekeeper for input via ESS or approve Leave Requests via ESS and forward the appropriate documentation to the Field Human Resource Officer.
4. Upon submission of the **STD 330** or **ESS Leave Request**, provide the employee with **Verification of Attendance at Military Obligations Form** for completion by his/her commanding officer/designee. Employee must be informed at this time that the absence

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is approved conditionally upon receipt of the completed **Verification of Attendance at Military Obligations Form**.

5. If approving the employee absence to attend military training would present major operations problems, the Field Human Resource Officer should be informed so he/she can explore with the commanding officer alternate times for training, if possible.
6. ***Forward employee requests for Military Absences Without Pay Without Benefits to the Field Human Resource Officer with any documentation required.***
7. Absences must be disapproved and appropriate action taken if the employee fails to submit the **Verification of Attendance at Military Obligations Form**, or other required documentation.

C. Action by Field Human Resource Officer

1. If the validity of military orders is questionable, contact the commanding officer to verify the orders.
2. If the absence of an employee due to military training hampers operations, contact the commanding officer to research the possibility of alternative training dates.
3. Approve all Military Absences Without Pay requests via SAP Workflow.
4. Approve Military Absences Without Pay Without Benefits in accordance with the *Personnel Rules*, via SAP Workflow.

D. Promotional/Bid Post Opportunities

If a promotional and/or bid post opportunity arises, and if an activated Reservist or National Guardsman is eligible for consideration, every effort shall be made to contact that employee via e-mail or other means to determine if he/she is interested in the opportunity. If the Reservist or National Guardsman is selected for the promotion or bid post, another employee will be assigned in an acting capacity until the Reservist or National Guardsman returns to work.

E. Vacation Selection

When an activated Reservist or National Guardsman is eligible to select vacation, every effort shall be made to contact that employee via e-mail or other means to determine if he/she is interested in the opportunity to select a time period for vacation.

Section 50 - Employee Recognition

The purpose of this section is to establish recognition programs for stimulating employee performance, motivation, and productivity in accordance with **Management Directive 505.23 Amended, Employee Recognition Program**.

A. Outstanding Performance Award Program

1. Guidelines

There shall be no specific categories designated for the Outstanding Performance Award Program. Award recipients shall be honored each year for outstanding performance, regardless of job classification.

2. Eligibility

Every employee who has been employed by the Department for more than two years is eligible. The following are excluded:

- a. Secretary;
- b. Deputy Secretaries;
- c. Facility Human Resource Officers;
- d. Facility Managers;
- e. Deputy Superintendents;
- f. Facility Business Managers;
- g. Regional Directors;
- h. Bureau Directors;
- i. Office Directors;
- j. Chief Counsel; and
- k. Press Secretary.

3. Criteria

The criteria listed on the **Outstanding Performance Awards Nominating Form (Attachment 50-A)** shall be used as a guideline for considering candidates. Emphasis shall be placed upon consistent, exceptional performance, and positive impact on the Department.

4. Awards

Winners will receive a plaque and a letter of commendation from the Secretary at a presentation ceremony at a date and time to be announced each year. Each winner will be featured in a news release to local newspapers and an article and photograph will be published in the Department's newsletter. In addition, each of the award recipients may attend a professional conference or seminar on correctional issues as a representative of the Department. The recipient may select any job-related training program that is offered within one year of receipt of the award for a reasonable cost. Please note, exceptions to any of the above restrictions must be submitted by the recipient to the Secretary along with a justification.

5. Procedures

a. Procedures for Facility Nominations

- (1) Any employee of a facility may submit candidates for nomination to the Facility Manager. An employee who wishes to nominate a candidate shall describe, in a written statement, why the candidate is worthy of the award and forward the **Outstanding Performance Awards Nominating Form (Attachment 50-A)** to the Facility Manager. The person suggesting the candidate must sign the form.
- (2) The Facility Manager shall establish and announce a deadline for receipt of nominations from staff. A committee designated by the Facility Manager shall review all suggestions. This committee shall select no more than one name from the candidates for every 100 employees on a facility's complement. Employee totals are rounded to the nearest hundred. Totals up to 50 are rounded downward; 50 and over are rounded upward.
- (3) The Facility Manager shall forward the nominee(s) selected by the facility committee to the Secretary, using **Attachment 50-A** with the original nomination letter attached.

b. Procedures for Community Corrections Centers (CCC) Nominations

- (1) Any employee of a CCC may nominate a candidate. An employee who wishes to nominate a candidate shall describe, in a written statement, why the candidate is worthy of the award and forward **Attachment 50-A** to the Regional Director. The person suggesting the candidate must sign the form.
- (2) The Director of the Bureau of Community Corrections shall establish and announce a deadline for receipt of nominations from CCC staff. A committee consisting of the Director of the BCC and the three CCC Regional Directors shall review all suggestions. This committee shall select no more than one name from the candidates for every 100 employees on the CCC complement. Employee totals shall be rounded as noted in **Section VI.A.5.a. (2)** above.

- (3) The Director of the BCC, shall forward the nominee(s) selected by the committee to the Secretary, using **Attachment 50-A** with the original nomination letter attached.
- c. Procedures for Central Office Nominations
 - (1) Any employee of Central Office may nominate a candidate. An employee who wishes to nominate a candidate shall describe, in a written statement, why the candidate is worthy of the award and forward **Attachment 50-A** to the Bureau Director. The person suggesting the candidate must sign the form.
 - (2) The Central Office Committee shall establish and announce a deadline for receipt of nominations from the Central Office staff. This committee shall select no more than one name from the candidates for every 100 employees on the Central Office complement. Employee totals shall be rounded as previously noted. The nominee(s) selected by this committee shall be forwarded to the Secretary, using **Attachment 50-A** with the original nominating letter attached.
 - d. Each Facility Manager and the Central Office Committee shall submit completed **Attachment 50-A** forms by the deadline that is announced each year. A committee designated by the Secretary shall select winners. Nominees not selected in a given year may be re-nominated in succeeding years.

B. Cash Performance Award Program

1. Guidelines

The purpose of the Cash Award program is to enable the Department to recognize and reward outstanding performance.

2. Eligibility

Management, confidential, and employees not covered by a collective bargaining agreement or memorandum of understanding, and who are paid on the Standard Pay Schedule or the Corrections Management Pay Schedule are eligible for Cash Performance Awards. Only one award may be granted for an eligible employee during any 24-month period.

3. Criteria

- a. At the \$1,500 award level, the employee must have received an overall performance rating of "outstanding" on his/her last three annual Employee Performance Reviews (EPRs).
- b. At the \$1,000 award level, the employee must have received an overall "commendable" or "outstanding" rating on his/her last two annual EPRs.
- c. At the \$500 award level, the employee must have received an overall rating of

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“commendable” or “outstanding” on his/her most recent annual EPR.

- d. The employee must not have received any discipline (including verbal and written reprimands) within three years of his/her nomination.
- e. The employee must not have had any attendance or absence-related problems within three years of his/her nomination. Attendance or absence-related problems are defined as five or more days of sick leave usage per calendar year.
- f. The employee must have achieved one or more of the following special performance factors:
 - (1) Measurable productivity increase. Examples include reduction in sick leave or overtime usage, or increased production in a Correctional Industries program.
 - (2) Significant cost reduction in an operation or program.
 - (3) Significant technical or administrative improvement to an operation. Examples include reorganizing or realigning staff to effect a more efficient and effective operation, or implementing technological changes to modernize operations.
 - (4) Demonstrated creativity, initiative, and independence of action that results in improvement of services or resolution of problems through the development of new programs, processes, and management methods. Examples include developing and/or creating a new program for inmate rehabilitation, new product lines for industries, or new exam and selection programs for staff.
 - (5) Demonstrated ability to resolve an unusual or emergency situation in an outstanding manner.

4. Awards

Cash Performance Awards shall be granted in amounts of \$500, \$1,000, or \$1,500. Cash awards are taxable income, but will not be considered compensation for the purpose of determining retirement benefits.

5. Procedures

All employee nominations must be submitted using the **Cash Performance Award Nomination Form (Attachment 50-B)**. Documentation supporting the employee's eligibility for a Cash Performance Award must be attached to the nomination form. Supervisors of an eligible employee must document and process the nomination through his/her chain of command. The Secretary has the final approval/disapproval authority of all Department nominations. After the Secretary issues a final approval/disapproval, the Bureau of Human Resources (BHR) will notify the respective Director or Facility Manager, and process the transaction to implement the award.

C. Exceptional Pay Increase Program

1. Guidelines

The purpose of the Exceptional Pay Increase program is to enable the Department to reward service beyond that expected in the discharge of assigned duties and responsibilities.

2. Eligibility

Management, confidential, or other employees not covered by collective bargaining agreements or memorandum of understanding are eligible for this program. Only one Exceptional Pay Increase may be approved for an employee in any 12-month period.

3. Award Exceptions:

- a. Exceptional Pay Increases that affect a salary greater than the maximum of the pay range may not be granted.
- b. Exceptional Pay Increases greater than two longevity steps require the approval of the Secretary of Administration.
- c. Exceptional Pay Increases for employees in policy, press, and legislative positions, and Integrated Enterprise System (IES) staff, require the approval of the Secretary of Administration.
- d. Exceptional Pay Increases for attorneys under the Office of General Counsel require the approval of the General Counsel.

4. Criteria

- a. Criteria for an Exceptional Pay Increase may vary. The supervisor/manager shall fully document and justify a nomination for an Exceptional Pay Increase.
- b. The nomination may include, but is not limited to:
 - (1) Specific examples of how the employee has consistently exceeded the expectation of assigned duties and responsibilities over an extended period.
 - (2) Specific examples of how the employee has increased the efficiency/productivity of the workforce and statistical data to illustrate the increase over an extended period.
 - (3) Specific examples of how the employee has measurably reduced operating costs and fiscal data to illustrate the reduction.
 - (4) Any other information/documentation about the employee's performance that would support the request.

5. Awards

Exceptional Pay Increases may consist of one or two longevity steps and will not affect the employee's longevity date.

6. Procedures

- a. All nominations must be processed using the **Exceptional Pay Increase Nomination Form (Attachment 50-C)** with supporting documentation attached.
- b. The **Exceptional Pay Increase Nomination Form** shall be processed through the supervisor's Chain-of-Command.
- c. After the Secretary issues a final approval/disapproval, it will be forwarded to the BHR for notification of the respective Facility Manager, and to process the transaction to implement the request.

D. Retirement Recognition

1. Guidelines

- a. For retirement after 15 or more years of service, retirement certificates with appropriate citations shall be presented to employees at a ceremony presided over by the Secretary, Regional Deputy Secretary, Facility Manager or Deputy Superintendent for Facilities Management (DSFM), CCC Regional Director, or Bureau Director. Such ceremonies are to be scheduled at the preference of the Facility Manager, CCC Regional Director, or Bureau Director.
- b. Adherence to this section shall not preempt informal employee group sponsored ceremonies such as retirement luncheons or dinners.

2. Procedures

- c. It is the responsibility of each facility, CCC Region, and Central Office to identify which employees are eligible for retirement recognition.
- d. The Facility Manager, CCC Regional Director, or Bureau Director shall prepare a retirement certificate and then forward it to the Secretary for signature.
- e. The Facility Manager, CCC Regional Director, or Bureau Director shall notify the Secretary where and when the retirement recognition ceremony will take place.
- f. Each facility shall be responsible for ordering and maintaining a supply of the **DC-435, Retirement Certificates**.

E. Commonwealth Longevity Recognition

1. Guidelines

This program is intended specifically to recognize those employees who have state service in excess of five years and for each five-year increment thereafter.

2. Eligibility/Criteria

Employees with an excess of five years of state service shall be recognized, and shall be recognized for each five-year service increment. Every employee with 25 or more years of Commonwealth service is to be appropriately recognized. Such recognition may include special letters or other personalized memorabilia at the discretion of the Facility Manager.

3. Awards

Longevity certificates with appropriate citations attached shall be presented to employees at a ceremony presided over by the Secretary, a Deputy Secretary, the Facility Manager or DSFM, a Regional Director or a CCC Director. An employee with 10 years of service shall receive a service pin at that time and at five-year intervals thereafter.

4. Procedures

- a. It is the responsibility of the BHR to distribute the Commonwealth longevity certificates to those facilities that have employees eligible for such recognition.
- b. Each facility shall arrange for a ceremony where designated employees receive appropriate recognition.
- c. The facility shall coordinate the recognition ceremony with the Secretary's office so representation can be arranged.
- d. The BHR will distribute the appropriate memorabilia to each facility so that it may be presented during the recognition ceremony.

F. Sick Leave Recognition (Non H-1 Employees)

1. Eligibility

- a. A permanent full-time employee who uses four or fewer sick days during the leave calendar year may be recognized. A permanent part-time employee may also be recognized. The four days or fewer shall be pro-rated based on regular hours worked for a permanent part-time employee.
- b. Regardless of sick leave usage, an employee who meets the following conditions shall not be recognized:

- (1) was disciplined for any reason during the leave calendar year;
- (2) was on leave restriction;
- (3) was AWOL for any amount of time during the leave calendar year;
- (4) was employed less than one year from the most recent hire date; and/or
- (5) is a temporary employee.

2. Criteria

- a. Category One - shall include employees who had no “sick leave” usage, no leave without pay, and no sick family or sick bereavement leave usage for the leave calendar year.
- b. Category Two - shall include employees who had “sick leave use” of four or fewer days during the leave calendar year and who may have had leave without pay, sick family or sick bereavement leave.

3. Awards

- a. Category One - An employee in Category One shall receive a certificate and **may receive** a gift whose value does not exceed **\$25.00**.
- b. Category Two - An employee in Category Two shall receive a certificate and **may receive** a gift whose value does not exceed **\$10.00**.

4. Procedures

- a. The facilities shall decide on the gifts and certificates.
- b. Recognition shall occur as soon as possible after the end of the leave calendar year. Facilities are encouraged to provide awards in conjunction with other annual awards programs.

G. Leave Recognition - H1 Bargaining Unit Employees

1. Eligibility

- a. A permanent full-time employee who uses three or fewer occasions of CN, Non-Prescheduled Combined Leave, during the leave calendar year. A permanent part-time employee may also be recognized. The three or fewer occasions of CN shall be prorated based on regular hours worked for permanent part-time employees.
- b. Regardless of leave usage, an employee shall not be recognized who meets the following conditions:

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- (1) used more than three occasions of CN during the leave calendar year;
- (2) was disciplined for any reason during the leave calendar year;
- (3) was on leave restriction;
- (4) was AWOL for any amount of time during the leave calendar year;
- (5) was employed less than one year from the most recent hire date; and/or
- (6) is a temporary employee.

2. Criteria

- a. Category One - shall include an employee who had no CN during the leave calendar year and no leave without pay.
- b. Category Two - shall include an employee who had three or fewer occasions of CN during the leave calendar year and who may have had leave without pay.

3. Awards

- a. Category One - an employee in Category One **may** receive a certificate and a gift whose value does not exceed **\$25.00**.
- b. Category Two - an employee in Category Two **may** receive a certificate and a gift whose value does not exceed **\$10.00**.

4. Procedures

- a. The facilities shall decide on the gifts and certificates.
- b. Recognition shall occur as soon as possible after the end of the leave calendar year. Facilities are encouraged to provide awards in conjunction with other annual awards programs.

H. Withholding Longevity Increments

1. Guidelines

Longevity Increments for an eligible employee may be withheld with the written approval of the Secretary for the purpose of discipline or poor performance.

2. Eligibility

Only management, confidential, or other employees not covered by a collective bargaining agreement or memorandum of understanding are eligible for this program.

Exceptions:

- a. Withholding of Longevity Increments from employees in policy, press, and legislative positions, and IES staff, require the approval of the Secretary of Administration.
- b. Withholding of Longevity Increments from attorneys under the Office of General Counsel requires the approval of the General Counsel.

3. Criteria

The practice of withholding Longevity Increments may be considered in cases where demotion is not warranted and suspension is not the most viable option.

4. Procedures

- a. All requests must be processed using the **Request for Withholding of Longevity Increment Form (Attachment 50-D)** with supporting documentation attached.
- b. The **Request for Withholding of Longevity Increment Form** shall be processed through the supervisor's Chain-of-Command.
- c. The Secretary has the final approval/disapproval authority for all requests.
- d. After the Secretary issues a final approval/disapproval, it will be forwarded to the BHR for notification to the Facility Manager or Director, and to process the transaction to implement the request.
- e. The Secretary may reinstate the withheld Longevity Increment at any time before the effective date of the next Longevity Increment, without affecting the employee's longevity date.

I. Historical Practices

This directive does not preempt or prohibit those facility practices of honoring employees by other additional means. Those programs may continue to operate in addition to this policy. Such local units of organization may continue to establish their own criteria, such as a specific number of years in a particular facility, etc.

Section 51 - Benefits Briefing, Separation Processing

A. Procedures

1. Employee informs Supervisor and Human Resources Office of separation in writing at least two weeks prior to leaving, and returns all Commonwealth property to Supervisor.
2. Supervisor informs the Business Manager and the facility Human Resource Officer of any Commonwealth property not returned by separating employee and submits an itemized list.
3. Human Resource Office shall schedule benefits briefing with separating employee (this includes employees involuntarily separated).
4. Human Resource Office explains information on Benefits Debriefing Checklist **(Attachment 51-A)**.
5. Employee answers questions on Debriefing Checklist with reasons for leaving and makes comments (optional).
6. Employee signs form.
7. Human Resource employee signs in appropriate place and files in employee's Official Personnel Folder.

Section 52 - Dependent Entitlements for Employee Death

A. State Benefits - Non Job-Related Death

1. Life Insurance
 - a. Payment of Group Life Insurance.
 - b. Based on yearly salary as of the preceding January 1.
 - c. Rounded off to nearest \$1000.00.
 - d. \$40,000 maximum.
2. Retirement
 - a. Members contribution plus interest if not vested.
 - b. Present value if vested (Superannuation or 5 Year Service Credit).
3. Payroll Information
 - a. Beneficiaries are entitled to any wages due deceased.
 - b. Beneficiary entitled to any travel expenses due deceased.
 - c. Clothing allowance.
4. Leave Information
 - a. Beneficiaries entitled to annual, personal and combined leave buy-out at 100%.
 - b. Beneficiaries entitled to sick leave buy-out at appropriate rate per contract or personnel rules.
5. Cobra Coverage
 - a. Health care benefits are available to survivor and dependents at state rates for 36 months.
 - b. Pennsylvania Employees Benefit Trust Fund (PEBTF) Summary Plan description shall be consulted prior to counseling survivors.
6. American General Life Insurance
 - a. Non-Commonwealth Benefit Program.
 - b. Pay records shall be reviewed to determine if employee was enrolled.

7. Deferred Compensation

- a. Administered by citistreet.
- b. Beneficiary(ies) entitled to balance of account.

B. State Benefits – Killed in the Line of Duty

1. Life Insurance

- a. Payment of Group Life Insurance.
- b. Based on yearly salary as of the preceding January 1.
- c. Rounded off to nearest 1000.00.
- a. \$40,000.00 Maximum.

2. Retirement

- a. Member's contribution plus interest if employee not vested.
- b. Present value if vested (Superannuation Or Five Year Service Credit).

3. Health Care Benefits

- a. Provides continuation of health care benefits to spouse and other dependents of the employee.
- b. Valid until spouse remarries or becomes eligible under another employers health plan as in several bargaining agreements.
- c. Annual certification of non-coverage required.
- d. Health benefits converted to REHP at time employee would have reached 60.

4. Cobra

- a. Ability to purchase health benefits at state rates for 36 months under Cobra if not eligible for any other health care program.
- b. Most Collective Bargaining Agreements agree to continue paying health care benefits to spouse and eligible dependents until spouse remarries or becomes eligible for coverage under another health plan.

5. Act 101

- a. \$58,500.00 if killed in line of duty (Recalculated on a fiscal year basis).

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- b. Law Enforcement Officers only.
 - c. State Law.
 - d. Not affected by federal benefits.
6. Post Secondary Educational Gratuity Program
- a. Children of Pennsylvania correctional employees killed in line of duty provided with 5 year educational gratuity.
 - b. State-owned or related institutions only.
 - c. Student 25 years or younger at time of application.
 - d. Deceased employee must have been full time employee.
 - e. Student must be a resident of Pennsylvania.
 - f. State Law.
7. Accidental Death Benefit
- a. Survivor eligible for \$10,000 accidental death benefit if not covered under Act 101.
 - b. Payable under Group Life Insurance.
 - c. See appropriate contract for amount.
 - d. State benefit.
8. Act 632 (State benefit)
- a. death as a result of an act of an inmate.
 - b. 50% salary until remarriage or death minus any workers compensation.
 - c. Remains eligible for act 101 and public safety officers death benefit.
9. Workers' Compensation
- a. \$3,000 burial expense.
 - b. 51% of wage until widower remarries or dies.
 - c. Children receive 32% of wage until 23 if full time student.
 - d. State Law.

10. Payroll Information/Leave Information

- a. All monies due deceased employee (pay-travel expenses).
- b. Sick leave if in line of duty 100% unless surviving spouse or children are entitled to benefits under act 101 in which case spouse or children will be entitled to buy out according to provisions of appropriate contract.
- c. Annual, combined and personal leave paid at 100%.

11. American General Life Insurance

- a. Non-Commonwealth Benefit Program.
- b. Pay records shall be reviewed to determine if employee was enrolled.

12. Deferred Compensation

- a. Administered by Deferred Compensation Administrator.
- b. Beneficiary(ies) entitled to balance of account.

C. Federal Benefits – Killed in the Line of Duty

1. Public Safety Officers Death Benefits

- a. H-1 employees only.
- b. Amount recalculated annually if killed in the line of duty.
- c. Federal Law.
- d. Amounts of award changes yearly.
- e. Does not affect state benefits.

2. Educational Assistance For Public Safety Officers Survivors

- a. Families of law enforcement officers only whose total disability or death is the result of a traumatic injury sustained in the line of duty.
- b. Maybe used by spouse or dependent children up to age 27.
- c. Amount pro-rated for part-time students.
- d. Must apply to Attorney General.

D. Guidelines for Local Human Resource Office

The below listed guidelines shall be followed by the local Human Resource Office in the event that an employee dies while actively employed by the Commonwealth.

1. Employees death non-job related

a. Life Insurance.

- (1) Informs survivor to contact Prudential Insurance Company in order to receive claim information.
- (2) Phone number 1-800-893-7316.
- (3) A certified copy of the death certificate is need.

b. Retirement

- (1) Reports death to SERS.
- (2) Informs survivors that SERS will contact legal beneficiaries.
- (3) Any questions from survivors shall be directed to SERS (1-800-633-5461).
- (4) A death certificate is needed.

c. Pay

- (1) Any checks for regular pay, clothing allowance, etc., shall be returned to payroll. Survivors can procure monies due deceased.
- (2) Directive 315.13 shall be reviewed.
- (3) If salary, wages and benefits are \$5,000 or less, survivor completes STD 142 to procure monies.
- (4) If salary, wages, and benefits exceed \$5,000, a short certificate or a small Estate Petition Decree of Distribution is to be used. (These forms are available at the county courthouse.) It is the responsibility of the survivor or their representative to procure these forms.

d. Leave

- (1) Completes appropriate transaction to separate deceased employee, which generates 02000-leave payment transaction.
- (2) Compares time and attendance record with 02000 leave payment to ensure accuracy and then approves or disapproves.

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- (3) Informs survivor of amount of leave due.
- e. Cobra Coverage
 - (1) Complete appropriate transaction to separate deceased employee.
 - (2) PEBTF contacts dependents regarding COBRA.
- f. American General Insurance
 - (1) Determine if deceased employee was paying for coverage to American General.
 - (2) If deceased employee was paying for coverage have survivors call 1-800-231-3655.
- g. Deferred Compensation
 - (1) Determine if deceased employee was contributing to Deferred Compensation Plan.
 - (2) Have Survivor contact Citistreet at 1-800-422-1327.
- 2. Employee killed in line of duty
 - a. Dependents entitled to all benefits list above in A
 - b. Health Care Benefits
 - (1) The local Human Resources Office will submit the following to PEBTF:
 - (a) A **PEBTF-2, Employee Enrollment/Change Form**: indicate in the remarks section "employee death/work related accident." Form available through PEBTF.
 - (b) A copy of a report from TPA indicating death was job related.
 - (2) All questions regarding Health Care benefits approval shall be directed to PEBTF.
 - c. Act 101
 - (1) Human Resource Office assembles package, which includes:
 - (a) Claim for Death Benefits, Public Safety worker (Forms can be obtained by calling 1-888-744-6513).
 - (b) Certified copy of death certificate.

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- (c) Certified copy of proof of marriage if payment is to be made to spouse.
 - (d) Certified copies of birth certificates if payment is to be made to minor children.
 - (e) Certified copy of decease birth certificate that identifies parents or a certified copy of adoption decree if payment is to be made to parents.
 - (f) Notarized statement from the supervisor or officer in charge describing in detail the duties being performed at the time and the circumstances under which the employee was killed.
- (2) Application for Act 101 benefits must be signed by authorized representative of the Department of Corrections and claimant (spouse, child or parent) or their legal representative.
- (3) Local Human Resource Office submits complete package to Bureau of Classification and Compensation, OA.
- d. Post Secondary Educational Gratuity Program
 - (1) Secretary of Corrections sends written notification of any corrections employee killed in the line of duty to the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) (Local Human Resources Office notifies Bureau of Human Resources who will author letter).
 - (2) Bureau of Human Resources sends information on Post-Secondary Educational Gratuity Program to family of deceased employee.
- e. Public Safety Officers Death Benefits
(To obtain forms or information call 1-888-744-6513)
 - (1) Local Human Resource office assembles package, which includes:
 - (a) Application for Public Safety Officer death benefits.
 - (b) Certified copy of investigative report.
 - (c) A certified copy of Autopsy report, including a toxicology analysis.
 - (d) Certified death certificate.
 - (e) If medical treatment beyond first aid administered prior to death-certified copy of attending physicians report.
 - (f) Certified copy of Essential Job Functions.

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- (2) Attached to the "Claim for Death Benefits" form shall include the following:
 - (a) Certified copy of decedent's marriage certificate.
 - (b) If either decedent or spouse was previously married, copy of certified divorce paper or certified copy of death certificate of previous spouse.
 - (3) Submits package to Bureau of Human Resources.
 - (4) Bureau of Human Resources sends completed information to Bureau of Justice Assistance Benefits Program, 810 Seventh Street NW, Washington, DC 20531.
- f. Educational Assistance For Public Safety Officers Survivors
- (1) Bureau of Human Resources requests application by calling 1-800-744-6513 or writing Bureau of Justice Assistance Clearing House, P.O. Box 6000, Rockville, MD. 20849-6000 or E-Mail www.wcjrs.org.
 - (2) Bureau of Human Resources aids claimant in compiling information.
 - (3) Complete package is forwarded to Bureau of Justice Assistance.
- g. Accidental Death Benefit
- (1) Employee's beneficiary contacts Prudential Insurance Company at 1-800-893-7316 to obtain form.
 - (2) Beneficiary completes form and forwards to Prudential.
- h. Act 632
- (1) Bureau of Human Resources determines eligibility.
 - (2) Bureau of Human Resources determines yearly amount, if applicable.
 - (3) Bureau of Human Resources informs survivor of yearly amount, if any.
 - (4) Bureau of Human Resources insures yearly check to survivor as long as survivor remains eligible.
- i. Workers Compensation
- (1) Local Human Resources office files claim with Third Party Administrator (TPA).
 - (2) TPA determines eligibility.
 - (3) TPA informs survivor of eligibility or denies claim.

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- (4) If eligible, TPA issues monthly check as long as survivor eligible.

Section 53 – Professional Attire Standards for Non-Uniformed Staff

A. General

All staff including permanent, temporary, high school interns, contract employees, volunteers, and management interns will report for duty in attire appropriate to their profession and in compliance with these procedures. Attire will be appropriate to the corrections environment and reflect the professional image of the Department. These procedures supplement **Section 2** of this procedures manual which mandate that non-uniformed staff meet the standards of neatness and grooming as established by individual facilities. Appropriate attire and grooming standards are essential for the safety of both staff and inmates and to promote a professional image of the Department. These standards are not intended to affect any staff member's freedom of expression or personal resources.

B. Inappropriate Attire

1. It is expected that all staff will exercise good judgment and common sense in selecting attire for the workplace. Staff will not wear the following while on duty:
 - a. shorts (except for Activities staff to be worn during structured activities only);
 - b. attire that conveys inappropriate or offensive messages or logos;
 - c. tank, tube, halter & midriff tops;
 - d. swimming attire;
 - e. spandex sportswear;
 - f. sweat/warm-up suits (except for Activities staff during structured activities);
 - g. any attire shorter than two inches above the knee;
 - h. revealing, low cut (in front/back), transparent, provocative, or tight (form-fitting) clothing;
 - i. ripped, torn, bleached, faded or dirty clothes; and
 - j. any footwear with heels that are four inches or higher.
2. All management personnel shall dress in professional attire, with no blue jeans, sneakers, or sandals. Men must wear ties. Dress down days may be authorized and scheduled with the approval of the Facility Manager or Deputy Secretary of Administration for all Central Office days.

C. Jewelry, Watches, and Fitness Tracking Devices

Jewelry, watches, and Fitness Tracking Devices for non-uniformed staff shall be in accordance with Department policy 6.2.4, “Uniform Regulations,” Section 1, Subsections J. and K.

D. New Staff Orientation

Each Facility Manager shall ensure that each new staff member is informed of these standards during the interview process. These standards will again be reviewed with new staff members during the orientation process. Managers and supervisors will provide ongoing communication of these standards to ensure they are tied to organizational needs for personal safety and to set an example for a professional atmosphere in the corrections work environment.

E. Discipline

Managers and supervisors are responsible for administering and enforcing the professional attire standards. Disciplinary action may be taken against a staff member for violation of these standards in accordance with **Section 7** of this procedures manual.

Section 54 – Leave Benefits for Domestic Partners

This program is extended to any management and non-represented employee and to any employee in a bargaining unit, who has agreed to participate in this program, who legally attests to a domestic partnership.

A. Guidelines

To qualify for the leave benefits outlined below, an employee and partner must meet the below listed criteria and provide a completed **Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Leave Benefits Domestic Partnership Verification Statement (Attachment 54-A)**. This notarized verification statement is to be maintained in the employee's official personnel file.

1. Each partner is the same gender.
2. Both partners are unmarried.
3. Both partners are at least 18 years old and mentally competent to enter into a contract in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
4. Partners are the sole domestic partner of the other person.
5. Partners have lived together in the same residence on a continuous basis for at least six months immediately prior to the date of the notarized statement, with the intent to reside together permanently.
6. Partners are not related to each other by adoption or by blood, to a degree that would prohibit marriage in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
7. Neither partner has been a member of another domestic partnership for the past six months (unless the prior domestic partnership ended as a result of the death or marriage of one of the domestic partners).
8. Partners are jointly responsible for the common welfare and financial obligations of each other.

B. Procedures

1. Application by Employee and Domestic Partner for Domestic Partner Status
 - a. Employee submits completed **Domestic Partnership Verification Statement** to the **Employee Services Division of the Human Resource Service Center (HRSC)**.
 - b. The **Employee Services Division** of the **HRSC** reviews notarized **Domestic Partnership Verification Statements** for completeness and returns the form to the employee if the form is not complete.

- c. **The Employee Services Division of the HRSC** files completed **Domestic Partnership Verification Statements** in the **employee's electronic official personnel file (E-OPF)**.
2. After the notarized **Domestic Partnership Verification Statement** is provided, the employee is eligible for leave benefits relative to the domestic partnership as listed below.
- a. Sick family, additional sick family, and donated leave* may be used for the domestic partner and for the child of the domestic partner.
 - b. Sick bereavement leave may be used for the following:
 - (1) up to five days for the death of the domestic partner or the child of the domestic partner;
 - (2) up to three days for the death of the parent, brother, sister, grandparent, or grandchild of the domestic partner;
 - (3) family care leave* may be used for the domestic partner and the biological or adopted child of the domestic partner who is under 18 years of age or 18 years of age or older and incapable of self-care because of a mental or physical disability.

*NOTE: The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) does not apply to employees in Pennsylvania who reside together in a domestic partner relationship. Therefore, family care leave and donated leave used for the domestic partner or a family member of the domestic partner may not be designated as FMLA leave and counted against the employee's FMLA entitlement.

3. Termination of Domestic Partner Request by Employee or Domestic Partner or Individual Partner as outlined in the **Joint Domestic Partner Termination Statement (Attachment 54-B)** and the **Individual Domestic Partner Termination Statement (Attachment 54-C)**.
- a. Employee and partner or individual partner shall file the appropriate form with the **Employee Services Division of the HRSC**.
 - b. **The Employee Services Division of the HRSC** reviews the form for completeness and returns the form to the filing party(s) if not complete.
 - c. **The Employee Services Division of the HRSC** shall file the completed form in the **E-OPF**.

Section 55 – Leave Donation Program

A. General

1. All leave donations are administered in accordance with **Management Directive 505.7, Personnel Rules (Chapter 8, Subchapter B, Leave Donations)** and **Manual 530.7, Absence Program Manual (Part Two, Other Paid Absences)**. All leave donations are processed through the Department's Bureau of Human Resources (BHR), Sick, Parental and Family Care (SPF) Absence Unit located at Central Office.
2. All forms related to leave donations can be obtained by contacting the SPF Absence Unit in Central Office at 717-728-5341 or ra-censpf@pa.gov.

Section 56 – Unreturned Commonwealth Property/Uniforms at Time of Separation

A. General

In accordance with Department policy **6.2.4, “Uniform Regulations,” Section 1, Subsection A.12.**, which states “ When the staff member is leaving service with the Department, (retirement, resignation, or dismissal) he/she must properly account for and return all items issued by the Department, or be billed accordingly.”

B. Separation Processing

Upon separation, the below listed procedures shall apply.

1. The employee shall inform his/her supervisor and the Human Resources Office of the separation in writing at least two weeks prior to leaving. In the event the separation is involuntary, this process begins in accordance with **Subsection B.2. below**.
2. The supervisor shall inform the employee that all Commonwealth property must be returned no later than the close of business on his/her last day of employment or the subsequent pre-scheduled day of the exit interview.
3. The supervisor shall inform the employee that failure to return all Commonwealth property by the deadline will result in the cost of the item(s) being recouped through either the employee leave payment and/or retirement contributions.
4. The supervisor shall inform the employee that the failure to return Commonwealth property will delay separation processing and, if applicable, receipt of retirement money from the State Employee’s Retirement System.
5. The supervisor shall inform the Business Manager and the facility Human Resource Officer, in an itemized list, of any Commonwealth property not returned by the separating employee (the day after the established deadline for return of Commonwealth property has passed, to ensure that the employee’s leave payout and retirement are placed on hold).
6. The Business Manager will supply the costs of the items to the Human Resource Office.
7. The Human Resource Office shall notify the employee, in writing, using the **Notification Memo (Attachment 56-A)**, of items not returned with a cost assigned for each unreturned item. The notification shall include a second deadline for the employee to return the item(s), that failure to return the item(s) will result in payment being deducted from the leave payout and/or retirement contributions, and delay of any leave payout and/or retirement money being received. The Human Resource Office shall allow five business days for return of items.
8. The Human Resource Office shall add text to Infotype 2012 on the Q-action notating “leave is not being unlocked due to [list unreturned item(s)] and the date the process to recoup monies began.

9. When the employee returns the property, the Human Resource Office will unlock the Time Specification Q-action in SAP to release leave payout and final separation processing to the Bureau of Commonwealth Payroll Operations.
10. If the employee does not comply with written notification to return the property, the Human Resource Office will notify the Bureau of Commonwealth Payroll Operations (BCPO), Travel Advancements/Audits and Receivables Manager of non-compliance. This notification will include a list containing all non-returned items with associated costs. This notification will be used to make recovery from the employee's leave payout, if possible. The BCPO Pay Processing will set up the necessary wage type deduction to recover the debt.
11. If recovery is made from the employee's leave payout, the BCPO Advancements and Receivables Manager will coordinate with the Bureau of Human Resources to unlock the Time Specification Qxxx action in SAP.
12. If recovery is not possible from the employee's leave payout, the BCPO, Travel Advancements/Audits and Receivables Manager will prepare an Agency Indebtedness Memorandum (AIM) for the non-payroll debt, along with amounts from any payroll related debts, and forward it to the Department's Office of Chief Counsel for authorization to recoup monies from the employee's retirement contributions.
13. The Office of Chief Counsel shall authorize the claim and forward it to the BCPO, Travel Advancements/Audits and Receivables Manager.
14. The BCPO recoups the debt and completes the separation process. The BCPO shall forward a check in the amount due for unreturned property to the appropriate party in the Department, who will complete a refund of expenditure in SAP using the appropriate account coding.

Section 57 –Nursing Parents Rooms

A. Purpose

To establish a Department of Corrections procedure to accommodate employees who are nursing and who wish to express milk while at work.

B. Scope

This procedures manual applies to all departments, offices, boards, and commissions under the Department of Corrections.

C. Background

- 1. The Providing Urgent Maternal Protections for Nursing Mothers Act (PUMP Act) amended Section 7 and added Section 218D to the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), (29 U.S.C. §§ 218d: Breastfeeding accommodations in the workplace). The PUMP Act requires that employers provide reasonable break time(s) for an employee to express milk for a nursing child for one (1) year after the child's birth each time such employee needs to express milk. The PUMP Act also requires that employers provide a place, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers and the public, which may be used by an employee to express milk. Additionally, the Act requires employees to notify their employer of a failure to provide a suitable location to express milk and to allow ten (10) calendar days after such notification for the employer to provide a compliant space.*
- 2. This Administration is committed to supporting nursing parents. To that end, Department employees shall be provided reasonable break time(s) to express milk for a nursing child for up to two (2) years after the child's birth, subject to the provisions of this procedures manual and the PUMP Act, as applicable.*

D. Procedure

The Secretary of the Department of Corrections hereby directs Department facilities to identify and establish Nursing Parents Rooms and treat employee time to express milk as follows:

- 1. Each location provided by the Department for an employee to express milk for a nursing child is referred to as a Nursing Parents Room.*
- 2. At a minimum, each Nursing Parents Room, in addition to being a private space shielded from view and free from intrusion, must include a door with a lock, adequate lighting, ventilation, seating, a sink (when possible), and an electrical outlet. If a space meeting these exact specifications is not available, a space such as a vacant office or conference room, with an electrical outlet, a flat surface for equipment (other than the floor) that could provide the necessary privacy may be identified and utilized as the Nursing Parents Room.*

Multiple spaces may need to be identified, if more than one person needs to use the room. The space does not need to be permanently designated. Temporary spaces may be assigned as needed.

3. **Facilities that need assistance in finding appropriate space should contact the building manager (for state owned buildings) or the Department of General Services' Bureau of Real Estate at (717) 787-4394 or gs-realestate@pa.gov (for leased buildings).**
4. **It is the employee's responsibility to notify their immediate supervisor in advance and as soon as practical if they intend to express milk and require breaks and an appropriate location to express milk during their work shift. The employee is responsible to provide insulated container(s) for storage of milk and is also responsible to secure any necessary gate clearance for any pump(s) and insulated coolers to be utilized by the employee.**
5. **Once an employee has notified their immediate supervisor of their intention to express milk and the need for an appropriate location to do so, the employee's supervisor shall provide such request to the Department of Corrections Human Resources Office.**
6. **The Department of Corrections Human Resources Office shall respond to the employee in written correspondence, either via e-mail or letter using a format generally following the Request for Nursing Parents Room and Expressed Milk Storage (Attachment 57-A). Such written correspondence shall, at a minimum, identify the designated space to serve as the Nursing Parents Room/other temporary designated space and notify the employee that their supervisor shall work out a flexible schedule to allow for reasonable break(s) for such employee to express milk.**
7. **Employees who have requested the use of a private space to express milk and have not been provided adequate space as outlined in this procedures manual shall notify the Bureau of Workforce Support at (717) 787-8575 or ra-workplacesupportservices@pa.gov. The Department shall have up to ten (10) calendar days after the nursing parent's contact with the Bureau of Workforce Support to come into compliance.**
8. **Managers and supervisors must allow employees to adjust their break times and meal periods, as needed, to express milk. Employees are responsible to communicate the timing of their need to express milk in relation to their scheduled breaks and lunch. Managers and supervisors will work with the employee to establish employee break and lunch times to express milk. Limitations that apply to those employees expressing milk beyond two (2) years after the child's birth may be issued based on operational requirements. Managers and Supervisors shall arrange for a secure place to store the employee's pump and/or cooler while the employee is in the workplace. Management will provide a contingency plan in case of power outage.**

9. ***Additionally, managers and supervisors should be cognizant that based on factors such as the proximity of the nearest Nursing Parents Room to an employee's work location, there may be instances when an employee needs time in excess of their break and/or meal period to express milk. In such cases, the employee shall not be required to utilize leave.***
10. ***Nothing in this procedures manual shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect the authority by law to a department, agency, or the head thereof. This procedures manual is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents or any other person.***
11. ***Should you have any questions or require additional assistance related to the implementation of this policy, please contact the Department of Corrections Bureau of Workforce Support at (717) 787-8575 or the Human Resources Office at (717) 728-2009.***

Section 59 – Approved Leave Without Pay

The purpose of this section is to establish procedures for the request and use of Approved Leave without Pay (AO). AO should only be used under the most compelling circumstances and should never be considered or used as a supplement to Commonwealth leave benefits. The Commonwealth provides an extensive leave benefit package that generally meets the needs of employees and their families. All employees are eligible for regular/approved leave without pay; however, approval is at the sole discretion of the respective Deputy Secretary or designee. This leave should not be granted on a routine basis. Each request will be carefully reviewed for unique and unusual circumstances since it allows employees to receive full benefits while working less than a full-time schedule.

A. Approved Leave Without Pay

In most instances, AO leave is considered for new employees who had previously scheduled engagements and made the need for time off known prior to their employment with the Commonwealth. A new employee is defined as an employee with less than one year of service or a rehired employee whose most recent break in service was greater than one year and who has less than one year since the most recent date of rehire. It is the expectation of the agency that employees with more than one year of service will have accrued leave that they will manage and use appropriately and maintain a balance for future use.

1. Situations where AO may be considered:

- a. A new employee does not have sufficient leave to cover an illness and does not qualify for Extended Leave Without Pay. In this case, a doctor's note or other documentation will be required for any amount of AO leave used for an illness.
- b. A new employee planned/paid for vacation prior to accepting a position with the Department, and the employee made the Department aware of the need for time off prior to starting.
- c. A new employee has a death in the family and has not accrued the entitled sick bereavement leave (three or five days).
- d. A new employee relocated to accept Commonwealth employment and needs to move his/her personal belongings.
- e. A long-term employee whose leave was depleted due to a Family and Medical Leave Act/Sick, Parental, Family Care (FMLA/SPF) event for which additional time off is needed for bereavement (i.e., FMLA/SPF event was for the care of an ill parent who has passed away. AO may be used to cover bereavement entitlement.).
- f. A long-term employee whose leave was depleted for reasons not related to an FMLA/SPF event when an extenuating circumstance is presented. The circumstance must portray severe impact to the employee or the welfare of a child or family member as defined in the **Commonwealth's Absence Program Manual 530.7**.

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- g. AO leave requests within the first 30 days of employment should only be considered in extreme circumstances (i.e., paid vacation, visible illness, funeral, etc.).
- 2. Situations where AO may be considered under a separate process:
 - a. an employee may have, or be perceived to have, a disability where AO may be considered. Any such request must be submitted directly to the Office of Administration, Bureau of Equal Employment Opportunity (OA/BEEEO) Disability Services Coordinator by engaging in the established Disabilities Services/Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) interactive process; and/or
 - b. a pregnant employee may need AO after all leave and/or FMLA/SPF entitlement has been exhausted. Any/all requests for AO must be submitted directly to the OA/BEEEO Disability Services Coordinator by engaging in the established Disabilities Services/ADA interactive process.

B. Responsibilities

1. Employee

It is the responsibility of the employee to do the following:

- a. plan and budget leave to ensure that paid leave quota is available for absences;
- b. request paid leave in advance in accordance with all applicable leave policies and procedures and ensure that an appropriate leave request is submitted prior to the absence;
- c. request paid leave for unplanned absences due to unforeseen reasons in accordance with all applicable leave policies and procedures and ensure that an appropriate leave request is submitted upon returning to work or prior to the end of the pay period, whichever occurs first;
- d. provide appropriate documentation upon request;
- e. exhaust all applicable accrued and anticipated annual/combined, sick/sick family, and accrued compensatory leave (in accordance with local compensatory leave agreements) before requesting AO; and
- f. if applicable, exhaust all available leave benefits under the FMLA/SPF Absence Program before requesting AO.

2. Supervisor of the Employee

It is the responsibility of the Supervisor of the employee to:

- a. ensure that the employee is informed of and is following all leave-related policies;

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- b. ensure that all absences and attendances are accurately and timely recorded in Systems Application Products (SAP);
- c. discuss with the employee his/her options when quotas are not available for absence;
- d. request and obtain appropriate documentation for employee leave requests, when necessary;
- e. timely approve/deny paid leave requests;
- f. complete all leave-related training;
- g. immediately notify your Regional Public Safety Human Resource Delivery Center (PSHRDC) Office and the FMLA/SPF Unit of any paid or unpaid absences the employee takes which may qualify for FMLA/SPF leave;
- h. consult with your Regional PSHRDC Office if employee is requesting AO leave and for any and all leave-related questions and concerns;
- i. complete the **Request for Approved Leave Without Pay** form (**Attachment 59-A**) with the employee at least one week in advance of the absence, if possible. Absences pending AO leave approval will be charged to Absence Without Leave (AW) when no applicable paid leave is available, which could result in disciplinary action, up to, and including, termination;
- j. route the completed **Request for Approved Leave Without Pay** form through your chain-of-command to your Regional PSHRDC Office, including any applicable documentation; and
- k. consult with your Regional PSHRDC Time Advisor to ensure that all approved AO absences have been entered with adequate text maintained including the date of the letter when AO leave was approved and when retroactive absence adjustments are necessary.

3. Regional Human Resource Officer

It is the responsibility of the Regional Human Resource Officer to:

- a. inform employees and supervisors of employee options when paid leave is not available for absence;
- b. answer leave-related questions from employees and supervisors;
- c. provide guidance to supervisors on handling leave-related issues with employees;
- d. review respective regional facility requests for AO leave to determine whether another program would be applicable to the absence, whether all applicable quotas have been

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exhausted, and whether sufficient documentation has been provided to support the request for AO. It is recommended that a discussion with the employee take place if this is related to a possible disability and the need for additional time off;

- e. ensure AW is posted on an employee record for an absence pending AO approval to avoid an overpayment;
- f. print out and review the employee's absence record for the past three years and attach to the form for the Facility Manager's/Director's review;
- g. provide copies of discipline for time and attendance to be considered in the review process;
- h. route completed **Request for Approved Leave Without Pay** forms to your Facility Manager or Bureau Director with items noted in **Subsection B.3.f.** and **g. above** are attached; and
- i. prepare and send **Options Letter (Attachment 59-B)** to employees when leave entitlements and programs have been exhausted and the employee has not returned to work.

4. Facility Manager or Bureau Director

It is the responsibility of the Facility Manager or Bureau Director to:

- a. review and recommend approval or disapproval for all AO leave requests for his/her assigned area(s); and
- b. route all completed **Request for Approved Leave Without Pay** forms to the PSHRDC by emailing ra-pypsdctranpayroll@pa.gov.

5. Time Advisor

It is the responsibility of the Time Advisor to:

- a. run reports to monitor AO leave usage for the assigned area;
- b. keep records of AO leave approvals/denials for the assigned area;
- c. ensure that approved AO absences have been entered in SAP and adequate text is maintained on all AO absences in SAP including the date of the approval letter;
- d. ensure that absences have been entered using the appropriate absence type when the request for AO leave has been denied and maintain text in SAP;
- e. update SAP when retroactive AO leave approvals are received;

- f. notify the Labor Relations Coordinator when AW leave is entered;
- g. update the employee's Annual Increment and/or Longevity date in Infotype 0041 as per established procedure when AO and/or AW absences are entered on the record for continuous absences of 28 consecutive calendar days or more;
- h. request additional information and documentation from the supervisor and/or Regional Human Resource Officer regarding leave entry, when necessary; and
- i. notify the Regional Human Resource Officer, supervisor, and employee when errors related to AO leave entry are corrected.

6. PSHRDC

It is the responsibility of the PSHRDC to:

- a. review all Requests for **Approved Leave Without Pay** forms for completeness;
- b. check employee quota balances to ensure all applicable quotas have been depleted;
- c. review employee leave history;
- d. verify whether another program would be more applicable to the absence before considering AO leave;
- e. track agency AO leave requests and approvals/denials;
- f. recommend approval or disapproval based on the specific circumstances of each individual request;
- g. monitor AO absences entered in SAP;
- h. route completed forms to the appropriate Deputy Secretary;
- i. prepare **Approval Letter (Attachment 59-C)** or **Denial Letter (Attachment 59-D)** for Human Resource Manager signature;
- j. upload and certify signed **Approval/Denial Letters** to the employee's electronic Official Personnel File (e-OPF); and
- k. distribute the **Approval/Denial Letter** to the employee, Bureau Director/Facility Manager, Regional Human Resource Officer, Time Advisor, and Labor Relations Coordinator.

7. Deputy Secretary

It is the responsibility of the Deputy Secretary to:

- a. review and approve/deny all requests for AO leave for the assigned areas;
- b. consider the recommended guidelines for approving an AO absence as issued by the Office of Administration;
- c. consult with Human Resources, if necessary, to discuss potential agency impacts on approving or denying AO leave requests; and
- d. return approved/denied **Request for Approved Leave Without Pay** forms and all documentation to the PSHRDC.

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Glossary of Terms

[**NOTE:** The following terms have the stated meanings unless the context of the situation clearly indicates otherwise.]

Active Pay Status - The condition during which an employee is eligible for pay.

American with Disabilities Act (ADA) - A Federal law concerning accommodation of people with disabilities.

Adverse Contacts - Contacts with Criminal Justice Agencies including, **but not limited to:** Arrest; Investigation; Prosecution; Conviction (excluding any expunged or overturned); Incarceration; Accelerated Rehabilitative Disposition (ARD); Probation; and/or Suspended Sentence.

Allegation(s) of Sexual Contact – Outcome of Investigation

1. Substantiated Allegation - an allegation that was investigated and determined to have occurred.
2. Unfounded Allegation - an allegation that was investigated and determined not to have occurred.
3. Unsubstantiated Allegation - an allegation that was investigated and the investigation produced insufficient evidence to make a final determination as to whether or not the event occurred.

Anniversary Date - The anniversary date of an employee shall be one year from the date of appointment and, thereafter, one year from the month of the most recently scheduled annual (not probationary) performance evaluation or, for those employees eligible for annual increments, one year from the month of the most recent annual increment.

Application for Benefits Date - For UC: The date of the Sunday immediately before the day application for benefits is made, unless an exception to predate the claim is allowed under certain circumstances.

Appoint or Hire - The hiring of a person to perform designated duties in exchange for compensation; the term does not include individuals who are compensated through a contractual agreement or who transferred from other state agencies.

Appointing Authority - The head of a department, board, commission, or other official who has statutory authority to make an appointment in the state service. In the Department of Corrections, the appointing authority is the Secretary of Corrections. This authority has been delegated to (a) Superintendents for positions within their facilities, (b) Regional Directors in the Bureau of Community Corrections within their regions, and (c) the Executive Deputy Secretary for Central Office positions.

Appointment Package - A collection of materials required to complete a background investigation to appoint an employee. This typically includes, but is not limited to, Employment Application, State Issued ID, Birth Certificate, Social Security Card, and DD form 214 if applicable. Sometimes called “background packet.”

At-Will Employment Relationship - The right reserved by the Commonwealth, subject only to the express terms of any applicable labor agreement or statute, to terminate an individual's employment at any time for any reason or no reason, except as prohibited by law.

Available to Work (§401 [d]; 43 P.S. §801) - For UC: The Claimant must be ready, willing, and free to accept suitable work at any time it is offered. Claimants are not available who place unreasonable restrictions on the kind of work they will do, the hours they will work, or the working conditions they will accept. Claimants need not be available for all types of employment. The determination depends on whether or not employment limitations effectively remove claimants from their labor market. Registration for work is a prima facie case of availability, but may be rebutted by countervailing evidence.

➤ Examples of Unavailability: Incarceration or legal detention; caring for sick spouse, child, or parent; outside labor market area for personal reasons. If the reason for separation raises the question of availability, determination of availability is made simultaneously with the separation determination. (See Separation Determination)

Base Year (§[a][1]) - For UC: The first four of the last five completed calendar quarters immediately preceding the first day of the claimant's benefit year (see Benefit Year). The claimant's pattern of employment and wages earned during this period determine the weekly benefit rate.

Base Year Employer - For UC: The employer(s) who paid the wages during the claimant's base year.

Benefit Year (§4[b]) - For UC: The 52-week period beginning with the application for benefits date (see Application for Benefits Date). The weekly benefit rate (see Weekly Benefit Range) established at the beginning of the benefit year remains constant for any period of unemployment during the year. (See §4[b] of the Law for an expanded definition.)

BII - The Department's Bureau of Investigations and Intelligence.

Break in Employment - A voluntary or involuntary interruption in an individual's employment status with the Commonwealth. A break in employment may be caused by such events as retirement, resignation, furlough, or involuntary separation. The term does not include leaves without pay of any kind, legal strike absences, suspensions, or transfers regardless of their duration.

Bureau Director - The director of a central office bureau/office or his/her designee.

Bureau of Talent Acquisition (BTA) - An agency in the Governor's Office of Administration that acts as a central referral agency for non-Civil Service jobs. The BTA services all state agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction. When state agencies have non-Civil Service vacancies to post for external applicants, they request BTA to post the position and refer a list of applicants to interview.

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Civil Service Positions - Those positions which are included in the definition of the classified service under Article 1, Section 3(d) of the Civil Service Act (71 P.S. §741.1 et seq.) including (13) "All positions now existing or hereafter created in any department or agency under the Governor's jurisdiction which (i) are required to be under a merit system in order to qualify the agency or department for the receipt of funds from the U.S. Government or any agency or instrumentality thereof;...."

Classification - The assignment of a position to one of the jobs in the Commonwealth classification plan.

Classification Appeal - An official, written request by an employee for the reclassification of her/his position. This applies to all employees not covered by a labor agreement and those covered by an agreement that does not mandate resolution of classification disagreements through the grievance procedure. A classification appeal may or may not result in an appeal board hearing.

Classification Grievance - An appeal by an employee for reallocation of her/his position or other remedy through the classification grievance procedure as set forth in the labor agreement covering that employee.

Classification Maintenance Review - The review and evaluation of 25% of non-Corrections Officer positions per year in each facility and Central Office to ensure that these positions are properly classified.

Classification Plan - A listing of all the jobs and corresponding job specifications used by the Commonwealth.

Code of Ethics/Code of Conduct - A handbook providing the basic principles and rules by which an employee of the Department is required to conduct himself/herself. Every employee receives a handbook when *he/she* begins employment in the agency.

Collective Bargaining Agreement - A formal agreement between the Commonwealth and an employee organization that establishes an equitable procedure for the resolution of differences between labor and management and establishes rates of pay, hours of work, and other conditions of employment.

Combined Leave - Leave program for H-1 employees, which combines annual, personal, and some sick leave into one leave.

Commercial Drivers License (CDL) Drug and Alcohol Testing and Licensing Program - A program that requires employees whose job duties include operation of commercial motor vehicles to comply with federal regulations which require drug and alcohol testing.

Compensation - Pay and benefits granted directly or indirectly to employees.

Complement Control - Maintenance of records and controls on the number and kind of positions within an agency.

Condition of Continued Employment (COCE) - Occurs when an employee is required to successfully participate in counseling/treatment for personal problems through the State Employee Assistance Program (SEAP) as a last chance agreement for continued employment prior to dismissal. A COCE must receive approval from the agency, Office of Administration, and union if the employee is covered by a collective bargaining agreement or memorandum of understanding.

Confidential Employee - An individual who is employed in a central personnel agency or in the personnel office of an operating agency and has access to information subject to use by the Commonwealth in collective bargaining, or who works in close continuing relationship with individuals associated with collective bargaining on behalf of an agency of the Commonwealth.

Contract Employees - An individual under contract to perform a service for a specific period.

Covered Employment - For UC: All personal service performed for remuneration by an individual under any contract of hire, except certain services specifically excluded by Pa. Unemployment Compensation Law. (See § 4[1] and §1002 of the Law for an expanded definition and exclusions.)

Credit Weeks - For UC: A calendar week (Sunday through Saturday) in the claimant's base year (see Base Year) in which there were earnings, regardless of when paid, of \$50 or more.

Critical Incident - An unusually traumatic situation outside of the normal range of a correctional operations experience, to which employees have an unusually strong emotional reaction which has the potential to interfere with their ability to function. Examples include being held hostage, prolonged riotous situation, death or serious injury of an employee in the line of duty, physical or sexual assault on an employee, use of lethal force on an inmate, witnessing any of the preceding, involved in or witness to an execution of an inmate, witness to the death, suicide, or attempted suicide of an inmate or staff member.

Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD) Team - A CISD Team is composed of mental health professionals (facility doctoral and master level psychologist and master level counselors) and peer support persons (correctional officers, counselors, nurses, teachers, maintenance, culinary staff, etc.) whose function is to facilitate stress defusing and stress debriefings and provide consultation to management and/or the incident commander as requested. The team leader shall be a mental health professional.

Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) - A process for the identification of critical incident stress situations, recognition of signs and symptoms of critical incident stress, and reduction and management of critical incident stress in exposed employees.

Demotion –

1. Movement of an employee in a class to another class assigned to a pay range with a lower minimum hourly rate. The actual minimum hourly rate of the pay range assigned to a class shall be used to determine if an action is a demotion, even in those cases where an above minimum hiring rate has been approved for the class.

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2. For determining Civil Service-covered actions for certification purposes only, demotion means a change to a position in a class carrying a lower maximum salary.

Department Employee - Any person, whether full-time or part-time, permanent or temporary, hired by the Department as a Commonwealth employee.

Department - The Pennsylvania Department of Corrections with a reporting structure through the chain of command to the Secretary of Corrections.

Desk Audit - An interview with an employee or the supervisor to verify or gather information about the duties of a position. Sometimes called "work audit" or "job audit."

Direct Threat - Under the ADA: A significant risk of substantial harm to the health or safety of any person including an employee/job applicant with a disability that cannot be eliminated or reduced by reasonable accommodation.

Disability - A person who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities **or major bodily function**; has a record of such impairment; or is regarded as having such impairment.

Disciplinary Action - A verbal or written reprimand, suspension, disciplinary demotion, or dismissal.

Discrimination - Unequal treatment of a protected class of persons or the consequence of an action, policy, or practice resulting in unequal treatment of a particular protected class. Discrimination may involve a single act or it may involve a continuing policy or practice.

Discrimination Complaint - Notification of an allegation of discrimination. The notification does not have to be in writing to warrant an investigation.

Dismissal - The involuntary termination of employment for reasons other than lack of funds or work.

Dual Employment - The hiring of an employee already on a payroll or on contract with the Commonwealth, whether in a different agency, on a separate payroll or contract, or in a separate position in the same agency.

Duties - A group of closely related tasks representing the body of work for which the employee is accountable. See also "Major Duty" and "Marginal - Minor Duty."

EEO Office - The Department's Office of Equal Employment Opportunity/Contract Compliance.

Emergency - Any unusual incident that disrupts normal operations and that requires extraordinary measures to bring about a return to normal operations.

Employee - A person who has been hired by an agency subject to The Administrative Code of 1929 (71 P.S. §§51-732) and whose employment has not yet been terminated.

Employee Performance Review Program - An annual/interim/probationary review to measure and inform employees of their performance levels.

Employee Service Coordinator - The person designated by the Secretary of Corrections to oversee Commonwealth benefits for employees of the Department of Corrections.

Entrance-Level Job - A job involving work in an occupational area at the beginning level; the lowest level in a series of jobs.

Equal Employment Opportunity - A system of employment practices within an employing organization under which individuals are not excluded from any participation, advancement, or benefits because of their race, color, religious creed, ancestry, union membership, age, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, AIDS or HIV status, or disability.

Essential Employees - Employees who are required to work when an office closing is authorized.

Essential Functions - The necessary, critical, and fundamental duties of the position that must be performed with or without a reasonable accommodation.

Examples of Work - That part of the job specification that lists tasks illustrative or typical of positions in the job. It should not be construed as setting forth what the specific responsibilities and duties of any position shall be, nor does it limit or modify the power of the appointing authority to assign, direct, and control the work of employees.

Exceptions to the Definition of Disability - The terms 'disability' and 'qualified individual with a disability' exclude individuals currently engaging in the illegal use of drugs; psychoactive substance use disorders resulting from current illegal use of drugs; transvestism; transsexualism; pedophilia; exhibitionism; voyeurism; gender identity disorders not resulting from physical impairments; other sexual disorders; compulsive gambling; kleptomania; or pyromania. Additional protections may be provided under other civil rights laws or executive orders.

Executive Board - The Executive Board consists of the Governor, who is the Chair, and six other heads of administrative departments to be designated from time to time by the Governor. Some of the powers of The Board are to:

1. standardize the qualifications for employment, and all titles, salaries, and wages of persons employed by the administrative departments, boards, and commissions, except the Department of the Auditor General and the Treasury Department;
2. approve or disapprove the establishment of bureaus and divisions by the administrative departments;
3. approve or disapprove extra compensation for those who are employed at fixed compensation; and
4. determine the hours when the administrative offices shall open and close, and to determine the holidays on which the administrative offices of State Government shall be closed for the purpose of transacting public business.

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Exempt Employee - An employee in a position or a job that has been identified as being exempt from the overtime provisions of the *Fair Labor Standards Act*.

Facility - A State Correctional Facility, Central Office Bureau or Office, Community Corrections Center, or a Motivational Boot Camp.

Facility Manager - The Superintendent of a State Correctional Facility, the Director of a Central Office Bureau/Office, a Director of a Community Corrections Center, or the Commander of a Motivational Boot Camp.

Financial Determination - The decision of eligibility or ineligibility for unemployment compensation made at the time of application for benefits that is dependent on the wages earned in the base year (see Base Year). The determination also involves computation of the claimant's weekly benefit rate.

First-Level Supervisor - An employee who functions as a supervisor in the lowest level of supervision not supervising other supervisors.

FLSA - The Fair Labor Standards Act.

FLSA Exempt Employees - Employees who are not eligible to be paid for overtime at the time and a half rate for hours worked over 40 in a workweek.

Full-Time Employee - An employee who is expected to be in an active pay status 75 or 80 hours every pay period.

Furlough - The removal of an employee from his or her position due to lack of work or funds or for other operational reasons.

Furlougee - An employee who is removed from his or her position because of lack of work or funds or for other operational reasons and who meets one of the following criteria:

1. is on a furlough recall list as prescribed in the *Civil Service Act* or the appropriate labor agreement; or
2. if not subject to the recall provisions of a labor agreement, has been furloughed within the past 36 months.

Harassment - Unwelcome conduct based on a protected class, when:

1. enduring the offensive conduct becomes a condition of continued employment; or
2. the conduct is severe or pervasive enough to create a work environment that a reasonable person would consider intimidating, hostile, or abusive.

Inactive Pay Status - The condition during which an employee is not eligible for pay.

Incumbent - The employee who occupies a position. May be permanently or temporarily employed, or absent on leave.

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Inter-Facility Transfer - The movement of an employee between facilities within the Department from one position to another with the approval of the Facility Manager(s).

Interim Evaluation - An evaluation which takes place between regularly scheduled evaluations.

Intermittently Scheduled Employee - An employee who is expected not to be in an active pay status every pay period.

Investigation - The process by which information is gathered, including, but not limited to, fact-finding, investigative interviews, and document research.

Investigator/Fact Finder - A person designated by the Facility Manager, or designee to conduct a thorough investigation and collect facts regarding an alleged violation of Department policy, procedure, and/or the Code of Ethics/Code of Conduct. In some cases, the Facility Manager may assign this function to the Bureau of Investigations and Intelligence (BII) or other appropriate Department personnel.

Job - A group of positions sufficiently similar with respect to duties and responsibilities so that the same title and code, including parenthetical title and code, may be used to describe all positions included in the group, and so that the positions may be treated alike for recruitment, selection, pay, and other personnel purposes.

Job Code - The official numeric and/or alphabetic code designating a specific job. The code is composed of five digits, the first and last of which may be a letter and is assigned to the job by the Office of Administration.

Job Description - See Position Description.

Job Related Disability - Any disability that substantially interferes with the ability to perform the essential job functions of the position that a person with a disability applies for, holds, or held.

Job Series - All jobs involving similar work, but varying as to level of difficulty and responsibility.

Job Specification - A written description of a job that defines and describes representative duties and responsibilities and sets forth the experience and training that provides the knowledge, skills, and abilities essential to the performance of the work of the job classification.

Journeyman - An experienced employee who works at the full performance level under general supervision on work of average difficulty.

Leave - Absence from work, with or without compensation, for an authorized purpose.

Leave Calendar Year - Beginning with the employee's first full pay period commencing on or after January 1 and continuing through the end of the employee's pay period that includes December 31.

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Level - A term used to describe differences in the difficulty and complexity of duties in different jobs within a single job series; occasionally used to describe the differences and/or similarities among positions in different job series.

Limited Term Wage Position - A position with a specified date of expiration, regardless of duration. A position used to hire employees for peak workload situations or to substitute for permanent employees. Positions of this nature usually have a six-month time limit and no benefits are applied.

Line Employee - An individual directly and immediately engaged in carrying out an organization's mission.

Longevity Date - The month and year an employee, paid in accordance with the Standard Pay Schedule or another schedule based on the Standard Pay Schedule, becomes eligible for a longevity increment.

Major Duty - A group of closely related tasks that occupy a significant amount of the employee's time (20% or more), or that affects the qualifications required for employment in the position.

Major Life Activities - Any basic function that the average person in the general population can perform with little or no difficulty.

1. Such activities include, but are not limited to, caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, walking, sitting, eating, sleeping, standing, lifting, bending, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, concentrating, thinking, communicating, and working.
2. A major life activity also includes the operation of a major bodily function, including but not limited to, immune system, normal cell growth, digestive, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, endocrine, and reproductive functions.

Management - Pertains to the officials in an organization:

1. exercising control over the major efforts of the organization;
2. determining objectives;
3. setting forth the general policies;
4. setting up the organization;
5. exercising fiscal control; and
6. directing the utilization of personnel.

Management Level Employee - An individual who is involved directly in the determination of policy or who responsibly directs the implementation of policy. The term includes all employees above the first level of supervision.

Marginal or Minor Duty - An incidental or miscellaneous group of closely related tasks that:

1. individually or collectively occupies an insignificant amount of the employee's time (less than 20%); and

2. does not affect the qualifications required for employment in the position.

Meet and Discuss - The obligation of the Commonwealth to meet at reasonable times and to discuss recommendations submitted by representatives of Commonwealth employees, provided that any decisions or determinations on matters so discussed shall remain with the Commonwealth and be deemed final on any issue or issues raised.

Memorandum of Understanding - A nonbinding understanding between the Commonwealth and an employee organization that represents first level supervisory employees and that establishes an equitable procedure for the resolution of differences between labor and management and that establishes rates of pay, hours of work, and other conditions of employment.

Mental Health Professional (MHP) - A Mental Health Professional shall possess a graduate degree in a social or behavioral science field. The MHP shall have knowledge of personality dynamics, abnormal behavior, and group processes. The MHP shall have knowledge of verbal and non-verbal communication, crisis intervention, and/or stress management, anxiety disorders, especially Post Traumatic Stress and a general knowledge of the overall operations of a correctional facility.

Merit System - The process of hiring and promoting employees based strictly on their abilities and qualifications to perform a job, with no other extraneous non-merit-based factors considered.

Minimum Experience and Training (MET) - The part of the job specification that sets forth the type of prior work history and educational background that an employment applicant should have at the time of application for the job. That is, what the candidate knows without ever having done the job.

Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI) - A measure of standardized objective personality characteristics.

Minutes - A written or typed summary of a meeting's proceedings, such as a pre-disciplinary conference.

Modified Duty - Temporary duties assigned based upon the employee's abilities and the operational feasibility of the facility, which are intended to facilitate the employee's return to work from a disability.

Modified Position Description - A position description that sets forth the employee's modified duties. (See Appendix 2)

Modified Work Schedule - A Department and Governor's Office of Administration approved work schedule that permits an employee to work a schedule different from the standard 7.5 or 8.0 hours per day. Modifications of an employee's work schedule must be approved by the Governor's Office of Administration, Bureau of Equal Employment Opportunity (after consultation with appropriate program areas).

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NCIC/CLEAN - National Crime Information Center/Commonwealth Law Enforcement Assistance Network.

Necessitous and Compelling (§402[b]; 43 P.S. §802) - For UC: Considerations or motives that give the employee no reasonable alternative but to terminate employment. The reason must be more than mere whim, caprice, or selfish desire. The reason must be one connected with employment, except in cases where a claimant's personal reasons are considered good.

Non-Civil Service Positions - Those positions in agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction other than civil service positions.

Non-Covered Employment - For UC: Services that are excluded from coverage by the Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation Law. Wages earned in such employment are not subject to the employee UC tax and are not used to calculate UC benefits. (See §4[1] and §1002 of the law for an expanded definition and specific exclusions.)

Non-Exempt Employee - An employee in a position or a job that has been determined to be eligible for overtime under the provisions of the *Fair Labor Standards Act*.

Non-Monetary Determination - For UC: The decision of eligibility or ineligibility for Unemployment Compensation that is dependent on the reason the claimant became unemployed or continues to be unemployed.

Non-Safety Infraction - A violation or nonobservance of Department policy and/or regulation that does not pose serious danger to the workplace or other employees.

Office Hours of the Department - The Office Hours of the Department are 0800 (8:00 AM) to 1700 (5:00 PM). The hours when the offices of state government are to be open for the transaction of public business is determined by the Governor's Executive Board (reference **Management Directive 505.21**).

OIG - The Office of the Inspector General, Department of Corrections satellite office (OIG).

Online Position Description Application - An electronic tool used by supervisors and reviewing officers to create, update, view, activate, and print their subordinates' Position Descriptions (PDs). Also used by employees to review and acknowledge their PD and the Public Safety Human Resource Delivery Center for position specific information.

On Scene Support Services - Direct services at the scene of a traumatic incident while the event is ongoing. Services may include brief interventions with personnel, advice and counsel to command, and assistance to family members. This is one-on-one contact, not a group process.

Overtime work - Work performed by an employee in excess of a regular full-time work schedule.

Partial Benefit Credit (§4 [m.3]) - For UC: 40% of the weekly benefit rate. This amount or less can be earned by a claimant without a reduction in Unemployment Compensation benefits.

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Part-Time Employee - An employee working less than 37.5 or 40 hours per week on a regular basis.

Pay - Money given directly to a person by his or her employer for services rendered. The term includes, but is not limited to salaries, wages, overtime, shift differential, call time, standby time, bonuses, and money in lieu of benefits.

Pay Plan - The plan set forth in *Manual M525.2, Commonwealth Pay Plan*, which provides an appropriate pay schedule and pay rate for each class in the Commonwealth's classification plan.

Performance Evaluation - A periodic review and rating by the supervisor of how much, how well, and the manner in which an employee performed the duties and carried out the responsibilities of the position occupied during the evaluation period in accordance with performance standards and expectations.

Performance Factor - An individual element of performance, such as communication or work results, which contributes to overall performance.

Performance Objective or Expectation - A statement of the most important work that can and should be accomplished within a specified period in terms that are measurable.

Performance Standard - A statement of how much, how well, and in what manner a particular task is to be done.

Permanent Disability - A disability that does not meet the criteria of a temporary disability, is expected to last over one year, and for which no anticipated date of return is stated.

Permanent Employee - An employee who is hired with the expectation of being in an active pay status for more than 12 consecutive months or who is hired with the expectation of being in an active pay status from 9 to 12 consecutive months inclusive and with the expectation of working on an annually recurring basis. The use of this term does not change or alter in any way the at-will employment relationship between the Commonwealth and its employees.

Permanent Position - A position created without a position expiration date and which may be eligible for benefits.

Physical or Mental Impairments - Under the ADA: Physical impairments include physiological disorders or conditions; cosmetic disfigurement; or anatomical loss affecting one or more of the following body systems: neurological; musculoskeletal; special sense organs (which would include speech organs that are not respiratory such as vocal cords, soft palate, tongue, etc.); respiratory, including speech organs; cardiovascular; reproductive; digestive; genitourinary; hemic and lymphatic; skin; and endocrine.

1. Specific examples of physical impairments include orthopedic, visual speech, and hearing impairments, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, HIV disease (symptomatic or asymptomatic), tuberculosis, drug addiction, and alcoholism.

2. Mental impairments include mental or psychological disorders, such as intellectual disablement, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disabilities.

Physician's Certificate - Medical report used to stay updated on the status of an employee's medical condition required by the Department to consider approval of return-to-work for full or modified duty for injured employees. The employee is responsible to secure the completed certificate from the physician.

PIC - Possessing an Instrument of Crime.

Position - An authorized and individually identified group of duties and responsibilities assigned or delegated by competent authority requiring the full-time or part-time employment of at least one person.

Position Accuracy Program - The method of monitoring an employee's current position description to ascertain the accuracy of the duties performed, and the ADA Essential Job Functions in conjunction with annual performance evaluations.

Position Classification - The process of allocating the position's duties and responsibilities to a job title. Supervisors and managers plan the work, and they have a great impact on the classifications of positions.

Position Classification Plan - A plan consisting of a schedule of job titles arranged according to series of jobs and occupational services as approved by the Executive Board on July 13, 1956, together with such amendments and revisions that are approved by the Executive Board. In addition, the plan includes a job standard/specification for each job.

Position Classification Reviews - The review and evaluation of positions for proper classification when the request is employee or management initiated and not in conjunction with routine reviews (such as the 25% annual Classification Maintenance Review).

Position Description (PD) - The official written statement of the duties assigned to a position and other position-specific information that includes the position's purpose, description of duties, decision-making responsibilities, necessary special requirements, and essential functions.¹

Position Management - The process of determining the duties to be assigned to a position, or the kinds of positions an organization needs. These decisions must be made by the person who is responsible for making the work assignments and for getting the work done - the supervisor.

Post Audit - A method to monitor the accuracy of the policies and procedures of human resource programs within the Department.

¹ 2-CI-6C-1

Pre-Disciplinary Conference (PDC) - A meeting conducted to provide an employee with an opportunity to explain allegations charged against him/her and for the information gathered during the investigation to be presented to the Pre-Disciplinary Conference Committee.

Pre-Disciplinary Conference Committee - A committee of management level employees designated by the Facility Manager or designee who review the allegations, the available information, and the employee's explanation before making a recommendation regarding substantiation of the allegations.

Pre-Employment Verification Report (PEVR) - A collection of information compiled before employment. Background investigations for all candidates for positions in the Department shall be according to **Management Directive 515.15**, "Identification, Employment, and Education Verification Checks" and **M505.5**, "Commercial Driver License Drug and Alcohol Testing and Licensing Requirements." (See Department policy **4.1.1, Section 40.**)

Pre-Suspension Hearing - A brief and informal hearing with management and an employee being considered for suspension pending investigation to provide notice of the allegations against an employee, including an explanation of the evidence giving rise to the allegations, and an opportunity for the employee to respond to the allegations.

Probationary Period - A preliminary period of employment or promotion for determining the fitness of an individual for continued employment in that position.

Promotion -

1. Movement of an employee in a job to another job assigned to a pay range with a higher minimum hourly rate. The actual minimum hourly rate of the pay range assigned to a job shall be used to determine if an action is a promotion, even in those cases where an above minimum hiring rate has been approved for the job.
2. For determining Civil Service-covered actions for certification purposes only, promotion means a change to a position in a job carrying a higher maximum salary.

PSP - The Pennsylvania State Police.

Qualified Individual with a Disability - *An individual who satisfies the requisite skill, experience, education, and other job-related requirements of the employment position the individual holds or seeks, and who, with or without a reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of the position.*

Rater - The immediate supervisor or a supervisor who is familiar with the work performance of employees and who prepares the performance evaluation.

Reasonable Accommodation - Under the ADA: Any modification or adjustment to a job, to an employment practice, or to the work environment that makes it possible for an individual with a disability to perform the Essential Job Functions or to receive equal benefits and privileges of employment.

Reassignment -

1. The movement of an employee from a position in a job to another position or job assigned to a pay range with the same minimum hourly rate. The actual minimum hourly rate of the pay ranges involved shall be used even in those cases where an above minimum hiring rate has been approved for a job.
2. For determining Civil Service-covered actions for certification purposes only, the movement of an employee, within the same agency, from one position to another position in the same job or in a similar job for which the employee qualifies at the same maximum hourly salary.

Reclassification - The reassignment of a position from one job to a different job to recognize a change in duties and responsibilities, to correct an error in the original assignment, or to be assigned to a new or revised and more appropriate job.

1. Upward reclassification of a position - The movement of a position to a job assigned to a pay group with a higher minimum hourly rate.
2. Downward reclassification of a position - The movement of a position to a job assigned to a pay group with a lower minimum hourly rate.
3. Lateral reclassification of a position - The movement of a position to a pay group with the same minimum hourly rate.
4. For the purpose of determining whether an action is an upward, downward, or lateral reclassification, the actual minimum hourly rate of the pay group involved shall be used even in those cases where an above minimum hiring rate has been approved for a job or in those cases where the pay group is truncated.

Recruitment - Active and aggressive efforts by the Commonwealth to locate and attract qualified applicants for employment in Commonwealth service.

Regional Counseling Centers - SERS field offices that provide retirement counseling services for all members.

Regional Team - A Regional Team shall be comprised of team members from two or more facilities in a given geographic area and may include the Department's Chief Psychologist and/or designee. The Department's Chief Psychologist or designee based on need and specific incident shall determine the composition and geographic range of a Regional Team. The Regional Team shall augment an individual facility's team when the facility's team does not have sufficient members or is lacking certain members (mental health professional and peer with specific experience).

Regular Work Hours - The number and times of work hours are predictable from pay period to pay period.

Reimbursable Employer - For UC: A nonprofit or governmental employer who reimburses the Department of Labor and Industry for the liability incurred as benefits are paid, instead of paying a tax on payroll into the Unemployment Compensation Fund as "contributing employers" do.

Required Knowledges, Skills, and Abilities (RKSAs) - That part of the job specification that sets forth the knowledge, skills, and abilities that are required of an employee at the time of appointment.

Resignation - The voluntary termination of employment.

Retirement - The termination of employment followed by a continuing relationship with the State Employees' Retirement System based on eligibility criteria for certain benefits as stated in 71 Pa. C.S. Part XXV (relating to retirement for state employees and officers).

Reviewing Officer - The second level in the chain of command of a position, or the supervisor of the supervisor of a position. The reviewing officer activates PDs and reviews performance evaluations.

Salaried Employee - An employee who is paid for a regularly scheduled number of hours for a biweekly pay period and is the incumbent of a salaried position.

Salaried Position - An authorized and individually identified group of duties and responsibilities assigned or delegated by competent authority that require the full-time or part-time employment of at least one person on a regular scheduled basis for a period of time exceeding six months and is charged against the salaried complement for budgetary control purposes.

Satisfactory Attendance - No discipline related to attendance.

SEAP - The State Employees Assistance Program. An evaluation and referral program servicing Commonwealth employees and their family members who may be experiencing personal problems.

State Employees Assistance Program (SEAP) Coordinator - A Commonwealth management employee, usually working in a human resources-related position, who is responsible for the implementation of SEAP within the workplace.

Selective Certification - An eligible list which is restricted to individuals who meet specific criteria or possess special knowledge, skills, and abilities essential to the performance of the duties and responsibilities of a position.

Separating Employer - For UC: The employer (usually the last) from whom eligibility for benefits is determined. The reason for the separation for this employment determines eligibility for benefits. If the claimant had not earned six times his/her benefit rate from the last employer, then the reason for separating from the previous employer becomes relevant.

Separation Determination - For UC: The decision of eligibility or ineligibility for UC that is dependent on the reason for separation from employment.

Serious Incident (as relates to workplace violence) - Generally, incidents of workplace violence including - but not limited to - murder, rape, bomb threats, or incidents involving the use of weapons.

Standard Work Schedule - A work schedule generally consisting of a single five days per week, 7.5 or 8.0 hours per day work shift (five out of seven days schedule), which conforms to the official operating hours of the agency as approved by the Executive Board. However, as permitted by contract, a standard work schedule also may consist of any ten days in a pre-established 14-day schedule.

State Civil Service Commission (SCSC) - The SCSC was established and is governed by the provisions of the *Civil Service Act*. It has the responsibility for administering the merit system of the Commonwealth in all agencies under the Governor's jurisdiction. The services provided by the Commission, through its Executive Director, include the hearing of appeals by individuals employed in positions covered by Civil Service.

Substantially Limiting - Unable to perform a major life activity that the average person in the general population can perform or significantly restricted as to the condition, manner, or duration under which an individual can perform a particular major life activity as compared to the condition, manner, or duration under which the average person in the general population can perform the same major life activity.

Supervisor - The first level in the chain of command of a position. A person responsible for directing, overseeing, and evaluating subordinates. An individual who has authority to appoint, assign, promote, transfer, suspend, dismiss, evaluate, reward, or discipline other employees; who has responsibility to direct other employees or adjust their complaints or grievances; or who can, to a substantial degree, effectively recommend such action or carry out such decisions, provided that the exercise of such authority is not merely routine or clerical in nature but calls for the use of independent judgment.

Suspension - The temporary removal of an employee from performing his/her job duties for disciplinary reasons.

Suspension Pending Investigation - The temporary removal of an employee from performing his/her job duties for investigative reasons where the alleged offense(s) are of a nature that warrant immediate removal from the workplace.

Tape Recording - The audio recorded version of the pre-disciplinary conference proceedings.

Temporary Disability - The inability to perform assigned duties because of injury or disease incurred in the performance of duties that, according to every reasonable expectation, will be one year or less, except in those cases where it can be established with certainty that the employee will return to duty within a specific period of time beyond one year, not to exceed three months.

Temporary Employee - An employee who is hired with the expectation of being in an active pay status for less than 9 consecutive months, or who is hired with the expectation of being in an active pay status from 9 to 12 consecutive months inclusive and without the expectation of working on an annually recurring basis. The use of this term does not change or alter in any way the at-will employment relationship between the Commonwealth and its employees.

Temporary Position - A position created with a position expiration date.

Temporary Working out of Classification (TWOC) - An assignment of higher-level work that is distinguishable from an employee's regular job duties by virtue of the circumstances under which it is performed and the frequency with which it is performed.

Terminate - To end an agreement that provides compensation for a person's time by either the employee or employer. It can be the involuntary ending of employment with the Department.

Termination - A break in employment of more than 14 calendar days. The effective date of termination shall be the date the initial break in employment occurred.

Third Party Administrator - The company the Commonwealth has contracted to handle Workers' Compensation Claims.

Transactions - All actions affecting changes in the status of an employee's or of a position's history.

Transcript - A typewritten copy from written notes or an electric recording device.

Transfer - The movement of an employee from the jurisdiction of one agency to another agency. A transfer may occur in conjunction with a reassignment, promotion, or demotion.

Transfer, Corrections Officer Transfer Policy - The movement of a Corrections Officer between facilities with no change in job title.

Transfer, Hardship - Severe personal hardship of an employee in which case only the Secretary of Corrections or designee may approve the hardship transfer. The employee sends a written request, with supporting documentation, to the Delivery Center Manager, PSHRDC.

Transitory Impairment - An impairment with an actual or expected duration of six months or less.

UC - Unemployment Compensation

Undue Hardship - An action requiring significant difficulty or expense in the implementation of an accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Unemployed (§4[u]) - For UC: An individual is deemed unemployed for any week that:

1. he/she performs no services;
2. he/she performs services for which no remuneration is paid or payable; or
3. he/she works less than his/her full-time work and receives remuneration that is less than his/her weekly benefit rate plus his/her partial benefit credit.

Verbal Reprimand - To warn an employee orally that some action or lack of action or performance on the employee's part is unacceptable and that repetition will result in further disciplinary action.

Visitors - An individual entering a facility other than full-time employees, part-time employees, contract employees, regular volunteers, inmates, or Department Academy Cadets.

Volunteer, Irregular - Any person(s) from the community who comes into the facility on an irregular basis including, but not limited to sporting teams, outside entertainment, athletic officials, etc. Such person(s) requires a general orientation by a staff member from the relevant department.

Volunteer, Regular - Any person from the community offering, without pay, any services, materials, or facilities to the inmates in the correctional system on a regular basis. Practicum students, interns, and persons conducting authorized research are to be included in this category. Regular volunteer access to the facility should be on a regularly occurring, pre-approved schedule.

Wage Employee - An employee who is paid on an hourly basis, whose hours are reported each pay period and is the incumbent of a wage position.

Wage Position - An authorized and individually identified group of duties and responsibilities assigned or delegated by competent authority that require the full-time or part-time employment of one person on either:

1. a regular schedule for a limited time;
2. an intermittent or irregular schedule without regard to the duration of the term of employment; or
3. wage positions are charged against the wage complement for budgetary control purposes.

Weekly Benefit Rate (WBR) - For UC: The amount of UC calculated to be paid based on a claimant's base year wages (see Base Year).

Willful Misconduct (§402(e); 43 P.S. §802) - For UC: The wanton or willful disregard of the employer's interest, a deliberate violation of rules, a disregard of standards of behavior which the employer has a right to expect of his/her employee, and/or negligence of such degree or recurrence as to manifest culpability, wrongful intent, or evil design, or to show an intentional and substantial disregard of the employer's interest or of the employee's duties and obligations to the employer.

Workplace - A Commonwealth owned or leased property, a location where Commonwealth business is conducted or where an employee is considered "on duty." This could include Commonwealth property, in a Commonwealth vehicle, or while on Commonwealth business.

Workplace Violence - For Office of Administration reporting purposes, workplace violence is an incident of violence that occurs outside of normal job expectations or is not generally expected to occur as part of an employee performing his/her regularly assigned duties.

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Written Reprimand - To warn an employee, in writing, that some action or lack of action or performance on the employee's part is unacceptable and that repetition will result in further disciplinary action.