



Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

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Ted Strickland, Governor

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Terry Collins, Director

September 15, 2008

TO: All Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (DRC) Visitors

FROM: Terry J. Collins
Director

RE: DRC Tobacco Prohibition

An internal DRC committee was formed in February 2007 to review the department's smoking policy and to determine whether or not all tobacco products should be banned from DRC facilities. The committee reviewed the legal, medical and economic implications of a total tobacco ban; examined information gathered from other state corrections agencies and solicited input from DRC wardens and other executive staff. The committee's final report was delivered to my office in November 2007.

After a thorough review of the committee's findings, I have decided to approve their recommendation that the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction adopt a tobacco free policy in all DRC facilities.

This memo will serve as notification to all DRC visitors that the grounds of all DRC institutions will be tobacco free effective March 1, 2009. All visitors will be prohibited from carrying any tobacco product into a prison entry building and/or visiting room. All personal tobacco products must be secured inside the visitor's vehicle in the parking lot.

The Department of Rehabilitation and Correction is striving to provide a healthier smoke-free environment for its staff and offenders. I hope you will assist us by refraining from bringing tobacco products into any DRC facility.