

DATE:	OCTOBER 1, 2008
NUMBER:	T.19
SUBJECT:	INMATE MARRIAGES
RELATED SECTIONS:	

PURPOSE

To provide guidelines for the handling of inmate marriages.

POLICY

Inmate marriages will only be allowed during normal visit periods or at a time set by the watch commander, given the operational needs of the facility. The inmate's clergy will do inmate marriage preparation unless a court order dictates otherwise. Marriages between inmates will not be facilitated.

PROCEDURE

I. NON-COURT ORDERED MARRIAGES

- A. The persons involved are responsible for fulfilling the requirements of the Civil Code relating to confidential marriages.
- B. The officiating clergy (or judge) must present the "Confidential Marriage License" to the jail information clerk prior to the regularly scheduled visit. The County Clerk shall issue this license to the person performing the ceremony in accordance with Civil Code Section 4213.1 as amended.
- C. The jail information clerk will obtain the inmate's signature on the form and return it to the clergy or judge.
- D. The marriage will be performed during regular visiting hours over the facility visit-phone system.
- E. In cases where the marriage would disrupt or delay the visit process, the watch commander may set a special time to perform the marriage.
- F. The officiating clergy (or judge) is responsible for filing the necessary forms at the appropriate county office(s).

II. COURT ORDERED INMATE MARRIAGES

- A. When a court order is received, it is distributed to the watch commander and the inmate's file.

- B. The watch commander will:
 - 1. Ensure the valid marriage license is presented prior to the ceremony.
 - 2. Notify the appropriate agencies (i.e., District Attorney, adult or youth authority, Probation Department, federal authorities, etc.)
 - 3. Coordinate the date and time of the ceremony, as in Section: I.D, E.
 - 4. Determine if a special visit is warranted.
- C. The officiating clergy (or judge) is responsible for filing the necessary papers at the appropriate county office(s).