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Dear JGD Instructor:

Thank you for taking this step in bringing rehabilitative programs to the incarcerated. For this, we are forever grateful. There are a few rules for entering correction facilities you should be aware of.

DRESS CODE:

These may differ from institution to institution slightly; however, the following should cover most rules:

- Valid picture identification must be carried and presented upon request.
- No persons under the age of 18 years.
- No cell phones, or pagers.
- No weapons of any kind.
- No tobacco products or any kind.
- No cigarette lighters or matches.
- Unless medically necessary, no handbags, purses, backpacks, etc. (wallets are sometimes okay, but check with facility.)

During rainy weather or where rain is imminent, a guest may bring an umbrella: Umbrellas should be compact or collapsible models, not exceeding 18 inches in length when collapsed. Umbrellas with pointed ends are not allowed. Umbrellas may only be carried during inclement weather and will be secured in such a manner to preclude loss or theft.

The following types of clothing are prohibited for tour visitors:

1. No clothing that resembles state issued inmate clothing:
 - A. No blue denim pants, blue shirts or blue jackets or shorts (of any color).
 - B. No grey denim pants, or grey shirts
 - C. No blue chambray shirts, jackets or pants.
 - D. No sweatshirts.
 - E. No sweatpants.
 - F. No sweat suits, including conventional, or designer jogging suits
 - G. No weightlifter pants
 - H. No orange pants, shirts, jumpsuits or shorts
 - I. No lime green pants, shirts, jumpsuits or shorts
 - J. No yellow rain coats and/or rain pants.
2. No fabric made in such a manner to resemble blue denim material and/or state issued clothing:
 - A. Black denim slacks and jackets are approved, unless the materials are so faded that it cannot be distinguished from blue denim.
 - B. Acid washed or stone washed materials must be distinguishable from inmate clothing.

3. No revealing clothing:

- A. No transparent clothing.
- B. No tank tops/sling-shot tops.
- C. No strapless, halter, spaghetti straps and/or bare midriff clothing.
- D. Tights are acceptable alternative to hosiery for wear under dresses or skirts.
- E. Skirts will be no more than 2 inches above the knee. Slits in the garment shall not expose more than mid-thigh.
- F. Dress or sport shirts/blouses unbuttoned past the second button from the top of the shirt/blouse are not authorized.

4. No attire displaying obscene and/or offensive language and/or logos/drawings.

5. No camouflage or military style clothing.

6. No open-toe shoes (sandals, etc.)

7. Any electronic equipment (cameras, recorders, etc.) needed to facilitate\capture the story\interview or event, shall be inventoried and the list sent to the Public Information Officer for the institution prior to the visit.

Note:

In addition to the above dress code/general tour rules, there is a standard disclosure told to all visitors to prison/county jail and youth facilities regarding hostage situations. Please be mindful that if a hostage situation were to occur, there would not be negotiating or bargaining with those taking hostages. The exact wording from the legal statute taken from California Code of Regulations, Title 15, Section 3304:

"Employees must not permit inmates or others to use hostages to escape from custody or otherwise interfere with orderly institutional operations. Hostages will not be recognized for bargaining purposes. All inmates, visitors and staff will be informed of this regulation."

All states have similar Code for these situations and while these situations are extremely rare, all visitors are informed of the statute before entry.

If you have any questions about these rules, please call me.

All the best,

Kat Kambes
Director of Operations