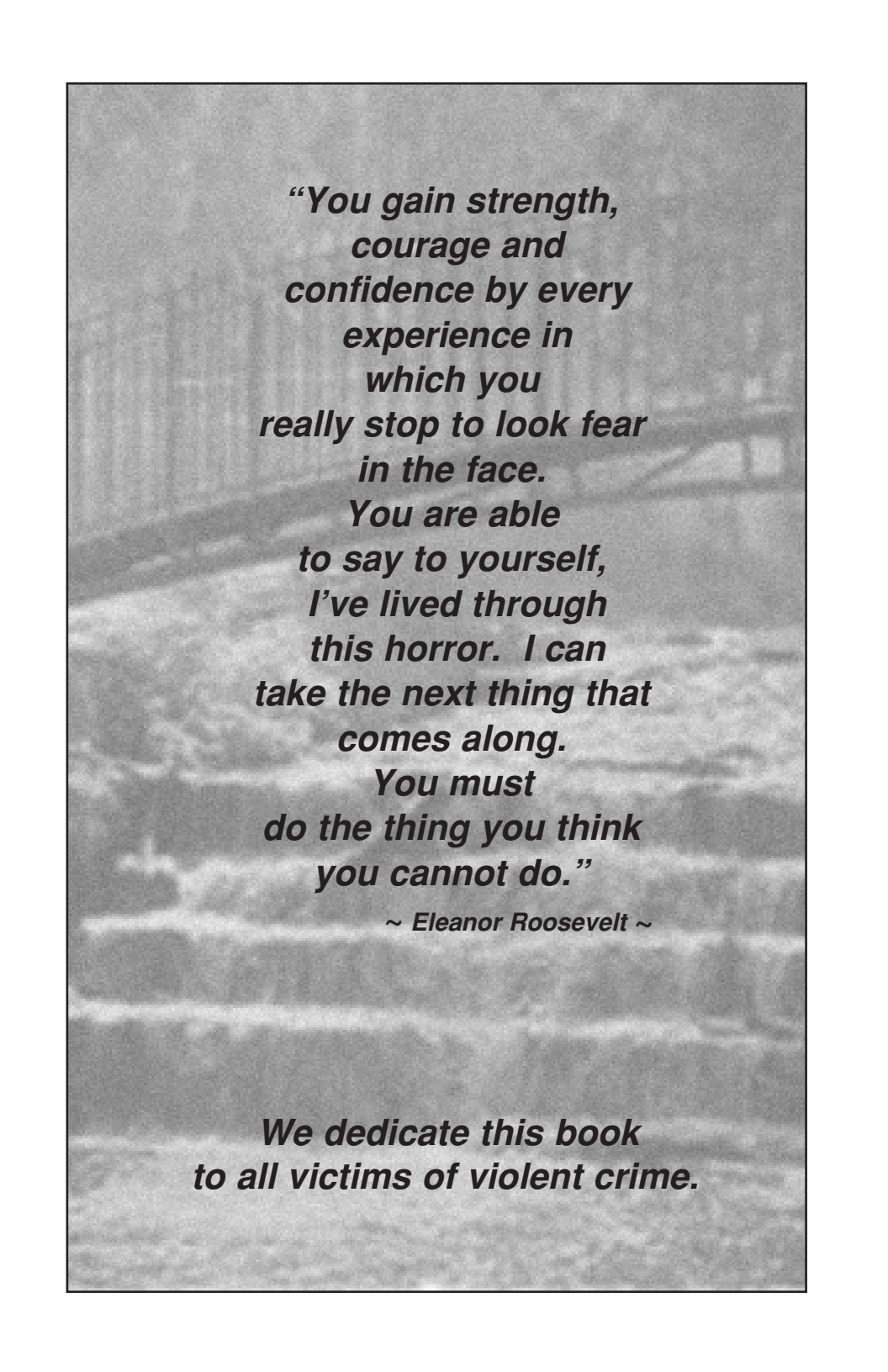




Colorado Department of Corrections

A Walk Through the System

A Guide for
Victims and Survivors



***“You gain strength,
courage and
confidence by every
experience in
which you
really stop to look fear
in the face.***

***You are able
to say to yourself,
I’ve lived through
this horror. I can
take the next thing that
comes along.***

***You must
do the thing you think
you cannot do.”***

~ Eleanor Roosevelt ~

***We dedicate this book
to all victims of violent crime.***

A welcome from the Department of Corrections Victim Services Unit

The fact that you are reading this handbook probably means that you or someone that you know or love has become a victim of a violent crime, and the offender is now incarcerated in the Colorado Department of Corrections. We understand that even after the investigation and prosecution of the crime, you may still be in shock or trauma. It is often difficult to think about what is next.



*Monica Crocker, Coordinator
Victim Services Unit
Colorado Department of Corrections*

It is our commitment to you, as a victim of a violent crime, to assist you and support you during the time the offender is under the jurisdiction of the Colorado Department of Corrections. The Victim Services Unit is your link with the Department and it is our goal to reduce your anxiety and confusion by providing clear and useful information.

We have developed this handbook to help you understand the vast operations of the department. We can not undo the harm caused to you and your family; it is our intention that through understanding and knowledge you can find reassurance and peace.

Victim Services Unit

DOC Vision Statement:

"Building a safer Colorado for today and tomorrow"

DOC Value Statement:

- 1. Our staff is our greatest resource.*
- 2. We support a professional, empowered workforce that embodies honesty, integrity and ethical behavior.*
- 3. **We honor and respect the rights of victims.***
- 4. We respect the individual differences of our staff and offender populations and seek to safeguard the safety, dignity, and well-being of all.*
- 5. We strive to deliver correctional services with optimal efficiency.*
- 6. We engage in effective correctional practices that produce measurable outcomes.*
- 7. We are committed to exceptional customer service.*
- 8. We are dedicated to providing opportunities for offenders success.*
- 9. Our success is achieved through mission focused collaboration.*

A welcome from the Victim Services Unit

We welcome you to the Victim Services Program. No one intends to become a victim of crime, and there is no way to undo the harm caused to you.



*Martha Krietemeyer,
Victim Advocate
Victim Services Unit
Colorado Department of Corrections*

The criminal justice system is a large and often intimidating process. There are many new terms and procedures to learn. The Victim Services Unit works to reduce the insecurity and stress you might otherwise feel by providing clear, concise and useful information in a timely manner.

It is our promise to honor and respect you and to act as your guide as you navigate through the complex steps of prison and community supervision.

***We are always here
to help you.***

It is our commitment to you and your family to provide direct and personal service. We want your voice to be heard through the critical stages of confinement in the Colorado Department of Corrections.

This handbook is designed to help victims and family members better understand the Colorado Department of Corrections. We understand that it is not perfect, nor is it complete. We hope that this guide answers some of your questions and concerns.

*If you have questions or need more information,
please contact us by e-mail vsu@doc.state.co.us,
or call us at 719-226-4709*

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Before 1992, the Colorado Department of Corrections had what was referred to as an 'ALERT' program. This program provided individuals with information when an offender paroled or escaped. The information was provided by the individual correctional facility. The ALERT program was primarily aimed at victims, prosecutors, law enforcement, and criminal justice officials who feared for their safety upon the release or escape of an offender.

With the 1992 passage of the Victim Rights Amendment and other legislation, the Department of Corrections went to a centralized victim notification system.



***Colorado Department of Corrections
established the Victim Notification Program in
April 1993.***

***We are your link for questions and concerns
about the operations of the Colorado Department
of Corrections.***

We are here to Assist You...

- ✓ Information regarding the status of offenders and parolees under our jurisdiction through written and verbal notifications;
- ✓ Advocacy throughout the incarceration and community supervision process;
- ✓ Assisting victims with concerns about offenders and parolees under our jurisdiction;
- ✓ Attend Parole Board hearings to provide support and assistance;
- ✓ Attend Community Corrections Board Reviews to provide support and assistance;
- ✓ Referrals to other state and community resources.

Throughout the process you will be respected and your information will remain confidential.

Your RIGHTS as a Victim of Violent Crime

History of the Victim Rights Act in Colorado

Victims are not considered a direct party in a criminal matter; the state is the party of record against an offender. Historically, victims of crime had little or no voice in a criminal proceeding. President Ronald Reagan became well aware of this problem when in 1981, he became the victim in an assassination attempt by John Hinckley. President Reagan was appalled that the defendant had more rights than the victim. He established a Presidential Task Force in 1982. The Task Force determined that the treatment of victims in the criminal justice system is a "national disgrace." "If the victim had to do it all over again, they would not report the crime." The Task Force recommended that the Sixth Amendment of the Constitution be amended to include the Rights of Victims. On November 3, 1992, Colorado voters overwhelmingly (80%) passed a Constitutional Amendment recognizing the Rights of Victims of Violent Crime.

Legislative Declaration 24-4.1-301 C.R.S.

The General Assembly hereby finds and declares that the full and voluntary cooperation of victims and witnesses to crimes with state and local law enforcement agencies as to such crimes is imperative for the general effectiveness and well-being of the criminal justice system of the state. It is the intent...to ensure that all victims of and witnesses to crimes are honored and protected by law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and judges in a manner no less vigorous than the protection afforded criminal defendants.

Visit

www.dcj.state.co.us/ovp/index.htm

Who is Considered a Victim of Violent Crime?

The Constitution of the State of Colorado and the laws of the state C.R.S. § 24-4.1-302 (1) guarantee certain rights to the victims of the following criminal acts. For updates on criminal acts, visit the Colorado state web site at www.state.co.us.

- **Murder** - 1st and 2nd Degree;
 - **Manslaughter**;
Criminally negligent homicide and vehicular homicide;
 - **Assault** - 1st, 2nd, 3rd degree, vehicular assault;
 - **Menacing**;
 - **Kidnapping** - 1st and 2nd degree;
 - **Sexual Assault** - 1st, 2nd, 3rd degree, unlawful sexual contact, on a child, on a child by one in a position of trust, on a client by a Psychotherapist;
 - **Robbery** - aggravated, aggravated of a controlled substance;
 - **Incest** and aggravated incest;
 - **Child abuse**;
 - **Sexual exploitation** of children;
 - **Crimes against at-risk adults or at-risk juveniles**;
 - Crimes for which the underlying foundation has been determined to be **domestic violence**;
 - **Careless driving that results in the death** of another person;
 - **Failure to stop at the scene of an accident that results in the death** of another person;
 - **Stalking**;
 - **Ethnic intimidation**;
 - **Retaliation** against a victim or witness;
 - **Tampering** with a victim or witness; and
 - **Any criminal attempt, conspiracy, criminal solicitation, or accessory** involving any of the crimes specified above.
- **Note:** *If the victim is deceased or incapacitated, these rights may be exercised by the victim's spouse, parent, child, sibling, grandparent, significant other, or other lawful representative.*

Information You Have a Right To Know

As a Victim of a Violent Crime you have the right to be ***Heard, Informed, and Present.***

Offender Status:

When you initially enroll in the Colorado Department of Corrections Victim Notification Program, we will provide you with the name of the facility where the offender is incarcerated and the parole eligibility date. If the offender progresses to a less security facility, we will let you know. You will not be notified on temporary or transport moves. And, at the end of the offender's term of incarceration or supervision, we will notify you that the sentence has been discharged.

Referrals to Community Corrections:

Ten percent of the Department's offender population is managed and supervised in community corrections programs. We often refer to these non-secure community facilities as half-way houses. The Colorado Department of Corrections is required by law to refer most offenders to community corrections. If the offender has committed a non-violent crime, the referral will occur approximately 16 months prior to parole eligibility. If the offender has committed a violent crime, the referral will occur approximately 6 months prior to parole eligibility. Each Community Corrections Board and center must approve the offender's placement. As a victim of a violent crime, you have the right to be heard during this referral and review process.

Meeting the Colorado Board of Parole:

Depending upon an offender's crimes and previous crimes, the offender may be eligible to be considered for parole by the Colorado Board of Parole. Depending upon the offender's behavior in prison, the offender may be eligible as early as 37.5% of the sentence served. The hearing does not guarantee the offender will be paroled, but he/she has the right to be considered for parole.

A hearing before the Board of Parole is really an interview. This is another critical stage in which you, the victim of a violent crime, have the right to be heard.

And Critical Stages to Be Heard

Regressions, Revocations, Absconders and Escapes:

Often the terms used in the criminal justice system can simply sound intimidating and scary.

But, you have the right to be notified during certain critical stages of supervision in the Colorado Department of Corrections.

If an offender **escapes** from one of our prisons, we will notify you as soon as possible. If an offender is supervised in a community corrections program and the offender violates the program rules, he/she may be **regressed** or returned to a secure prison setting.

When an offender violates conditions of parole, he/she may be brought before the Colorado Board of Parole for a **revocation hearing**, a hearing to determine if the offender should be returned to a secure correctional setting. A parolee is considered an **absconder** when his/her whereabouts are unknown and attempts to locate him/her have failed.

Note: If any of these conditions occur, we will notify you.

“Courage does not always roar. Sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying, I will try again tomorrow”

~ Mary Anne Radmacher ~

Is Prison a Free Ride?

It is difficult to imagine what happens behind the walls of prison. Through the years, Hollywood and Television media have provided entertaining and often sensational versions of prison life and activity.

When an offender is sentenced to the Colorado Department of Corrections, the act of separation from society is the punishment for the crime committed. It is not appropriate for the department to inflict additional punishment. By the same token, prison is not a vacation. Offenders pay through lost freedom, loss of privacy, and living under intensive structure and supervision.

While in prison, we provide under garments, three sets of prison issue green uniforms, shoes, and a coat for winter. We provide three balanced and nutritious meals each day totaling 2,500 calories. By Federal mandate we provide a "community standard of medical care." This means that if the procedure is available through Medicaid then we must provide it to offenders.

The majority of the prison population will return to the community after completing their sentence. It is our obligation to society to provide opportunities of rehabilitation for the offender: educational classes, vocational programs, real work opportunities. If an offender will take advantage of these programs, then he/she has a greater chance for success upon reintegration into the community.

Offenders are required to purchase all of their hygiene items from the prison canteen. Offenders' families may send in money for their use. Offenders can be assigned to jobs earning between .23¢ per day to \$2.00 per day.

Offenders pay for the following services and privileges:

- Medical co-pay
- Canteen purchases (hygiene, snack foods, stationery supplies, sundries)
- Phone calls (Colorado Inmate Phone System)
- Postage
- Post-secondary education (Community College programs)
- Television and radios

The Colorado Department of Corrections is by statute mandated to deduct twenty percent from all monies received by offenders who are ordered by the courts to pay restitution and child support obligations.

What Happens Behind the Walls?

All offenders sentenced to the Colorado Department of Corrections are received at Denver Reception and Diagnostic Center (DRDC). DRDC is considered a short-term placement while the offender

is evaluated and classified for placement in a facility. The average length of stay at DRDC is only 30 days. The first step at DRDC is to take photos and fingerprints of the offender. We initiate a thorough national crime search for prior crimes, aliases, and security information.



The front entrance of Maximum Security Prison Denver Reception and Diagnostic Center.

While at DRDC, the offender undergoes extensive diagnostic examination and evaluation:

- Medical
- Dental
- Mental Health
- Personal Needs Assessment
- Academic
- Vocational
- Classification
- Custody

Based upon the information developed through the assessment process, the offender is assigned a program plan (educational, vocational, mental health) and given a custody and facility assignment.



The Dental Office at DRDC

Custody Versus Security

Security level refers to the physical structure and control system of each particular prison. This includes:

- the type of perimeter fence
- the detection system
- housing unit structures

Custody determines the degree of management, supervision, programs and work assignments the inmate will require at any particular prison, or while he/she is under transport or supervision outside the particular prison.

The Colorado Department of Corrections utilizes an objective classification system to measure the risk of each individual inmate. The objective system considers ten factor areas to determine institutional and public risk.

The factor areas are:

1. History of Institutional violence
2. When violence occurred
3. Severity of current convictions
4. Severity of prior convictions
5. Number of prior convictions
6. Detainers or pending charges
7. Escape History
8. Number of Disciplinary Convictions
9. History of Discipline
10. Parole Eligibility Date



*A view from the control center
at Limon Correctional Facility*

Once the rating of each inmate is complete, a custody level is determined. Custody ranges are (the lowest risk) Minimum, Minimum Restrictive, Medium, Close and Administrative Segregation (the highest risk).

Colorado Department of Corrections defines security levels in terms of levels I through V (one through five). Level I has the least or minimal amount of physical controls and V has the greatest and most secure physical control features. (See page 14.)

As inmates are categorized by their custody level, the Department of Corrections determines what individual needs and risks require what level of security. This results in the process of prison assignment to the risk, needs and department goals of each inmate in the system.

Custody Levels

Based upon an offender's crime, institutional behavior, and needs, e.g., educational, medical, mental health, etc., it is the obligation of the Colorado Department of Corrections to incarcerate offenders in the least restrictive environment necessary to maintain public safety and the safe operations of the prison system.

Minimum - is the lowest custody level. Offenders are assigned to supervised work crews in the community. Depending upon the facility, the offender has less than 36-60 months remaining to parole eligibility date (PED) or parole mandatory date (PMD), and less than ten years until institutional discharge or mandatory release date (MRD).

Minimum Restricted - is slightly higher than minimum. The offenders are assigned to supervised work crews in the community. The offender has less than 60 months remaining to their parole eligibility or mandatory parole date.

Medium - provides structured supervision and management. Offenders remain within a secure perimeter at all times and are allowed to move to various areas within the prison only at designated times.

Close - is a high-risk classification level. Offenders are allowed limited movement within the facility. They may be classified close due to a history of violent or disruptive behavior; they may be an escape risk due to the length of sentence or other qualifying factors.

Administrative Segregation - is the highest classification level. Offenders remain in lock down up to 23 hours each day. When out of the cell, the offender is closely supervised and remains in physical restraints. Offenders earn their way into this classification based upon unacceptable institutional behavior. Their conduct in the general prison population is usually assaultive, violent and aggressive. Offenders with a death sentence are classified administrative segregation.

Photos of Different Custody Levels



Administrative Segregation recreation cell at Colorado State Penitentiary. Inmates in administrative segregation are in their cells for 23 hours per day. They receive a 15 minute shower and 45 minutes to recreate in a room with fresh air and a chin up bar.

*Colorado State Penitentiary (CSP)
segregation Unit*



*Administrative Segregation Unit at
San Carlos Correctional Center.*



*Double bed minimum custody cell at
Rifle Correctional Center.*

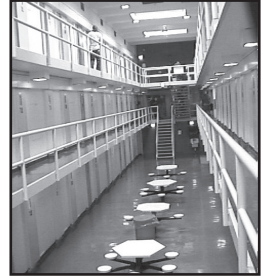


*Punitive Administrative Segregation at
Limon Correctional Facility*

Within the Colorado Department of Corrections



A medium pod at Colorado Territorial Correctional Facility.



A medium pod at Buena Vista Correctional Facility.



Six bed minimum custody cell at La Vista Correctional Facility.



Double bed medium custody cell at Sterling Correctional Facility.



Day hall for medium custody level at Sterling Correctional Facility

Security Levels

SECURITY LEVELS

	LEVEL V	LEVEL IV	LEVEL III	LEVEL II	LEVEL I
EXTERNAL SECURITY	Double fence; razor wire; detector devices; towers with 24 hour coverage; sallyports.	Double fence and/or razor wire; detector devices; towers; sallyports; 24 hour perimeter patrol.	Wall and/or double fence; razor wire; detector devices; patrol; towers.	Designated boundaries; single or double fence; periodic patrol.	Designated boundaries.
CELL DOORS	Remote controlled sliding and lockable doors.	Remote controlled hinged or sliding lockable doors.	Units or cells; hinged, lockable doors.	Units or cells; hinged doors; lockable exterior doors.	Non-security doors; lockable exterior doors.
HOUSING	Outside cells; bars on all openings. Sallyport doors to outside operated by a control center.	Outside cells; bars on all openings; outside doors lockable from control area.	Cells, rooms, or dormitories with bars on window openings.	Modular units, cells, or dormitories.	Individual rooms or dormitories.

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR CUSTODY LEVELS

	ADMINISTRATIVE SEGREGATION (See AR 600-2)	CLOSE	MEDIUM	MINIMUM RESTRICTED	MINIMUM
OBSERVATION	Constant supervision from behind barrier when out of cell.	Constant supervision when out of cell.	Frequent and direct.	Within compound, direct. Outside of fence/on property, frequent direct supervision.	Within compound, direct. Off property frequent as approved by Administrative Head.
DAY MOVEMENT*	Outside movement only with restraints. Up to 23 hour lockup. Daytime only out of cell.	Movement limited to structured times or cleared by Shift Commander.	Inside compound unrestricted.	Inside compound unrestricted. Outside compound by clearance.	Inside compound unrestricted. Outside fences on and off property by clearance.
NIGHT MOVEMENT*	Only in restraints and by order of Administrative Head. Emergency only.	Only by order of Administrative Head or Shift Commander.	Only by order of Administrative Head or Shift Commander.	Only by order of Administrative Head or Shift Commander.	Only by order of Administrative Head or Shift Commander.
ACCESS TO JOBS		Limited to facility.	Limited to facility.	All jobs on property inside or outside perimeter unless authorized by Administrative Head.	All jobs on property and off property with approval by Administrative Head.
ACCESS TO PROGRAMS	Select treatment programs approved by facility Warden.	Select programs with approval of facility Administrative Head.	All programs inside perimeter.	All programs inside perimeter. Selected programs outside perimeter (on property).	All programs inside perimeter. Selected programs outside perimeter (on/off property).
VISITS	Non-contact. Contact by Administrative Head approval. Approved list.	Non-contact/contact. Indoor only. Approved list.	Contact, supervised indoor and outdoor. Approved list.	Contact, periodic supervision indoor and outdoor. Approved lists.	Contact, periodic supervision indoor and outdoor. Approved list.

*Can be operationally defined and implemented by facility procedures.

Time Computation

“When the judge sentences an offender to a specific number of years, why doesn’t the offender serve the full term of the sentence?”

There is no easy explanation as to how the Department of Corrections computes the amount of time an offender will serve in prison. Other than a sentence of life with no parole, generally offenders will not serve the full sentence. There are many factors that impact the time served:

- ✓ Offenders receive day for day credit for time served in the county jail prior to incarceration in the Colorado Department of Corrections.
- ✓ In general, once the judge sentences an offender to prison, they are automatically eligible to meet the Parole Board when they have served 50% of their sentence. There is no guarantee, however, that an offender will be paroled at this time.
- ✓ By law, if an offender has made substantial and consistent progress in several categories, they may earn up to 10 days credit for every 30 days served (earned time).

Specific information can be obtained by calling the Department of Corrections Time Computation Office at (719) 269-4170.

Note: *Parole eligibility is a very complex legal matter calculated pursuant to law and is dependent upon the date an offender is sentenced, the type of crime that was committed (crime of violence, sexual, etc.), and whether he/she has previous felony convictions, etc.; and is beyond the scope of this publication to explain.*

“In the Confrontation between the stream and the rock, the stream always wins – Not through strength, but through perseverance.” ~ H. Jackson Brown ~

A Day in the Life of an Inmate

To manage safe and secure prisons, offenders must follow many rules and procedures. Each offender is explained the rules upon admission. The rules and regulations address all areas of prison life: offender behavior, property, activities, interactions with others, privileges and consequences.

Inmates who break the rules or who are not participating in their program plan are subject to discipline intended to teach accountability. Sanctions can include loss of earned time, suspension of privileges, and time in segregation or re-classification.

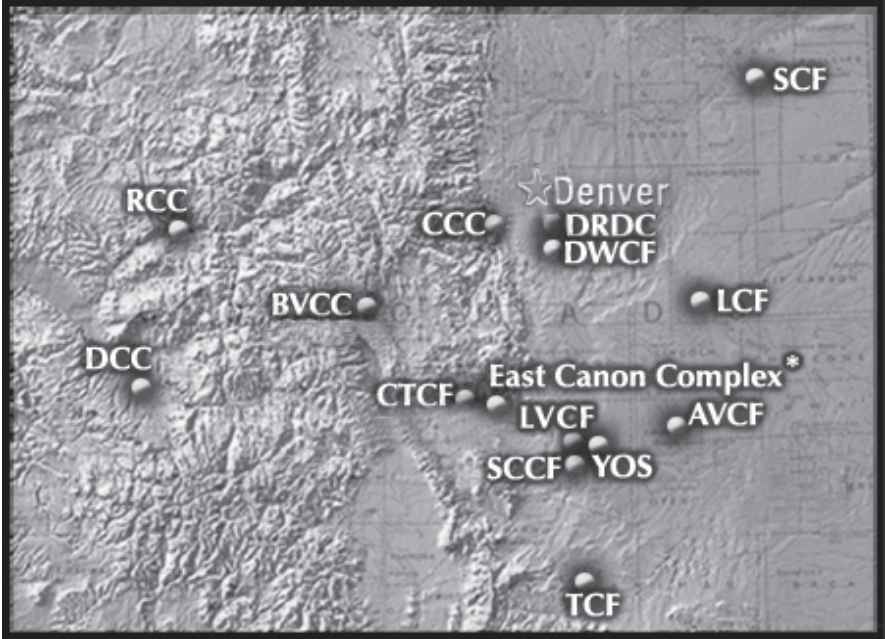
Inmates are restricted to their cells or living units five times each day for a formal count. Formal Count is the process of verifying offender accountability. Throughout the day and evening, facilities also verify offender accountability with informal counts.

Part of prison management is keeping inmates busy and productive throughout the day and evening. As an incentive for good behavior and program compliance, offenders may receive recreation and hobby shop privileges.

A Typical Day In Prison Life

05:30 a.m.	Wake-up and Formal Count
06:00 a.m.	Release for breakfast Living Unit and Cell housekeeping
07:30 a.m.	Release to work or programs
10:30 a.m.	Return to living units for Formal Count
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 p.m.	Release to work, afternoon programs, or recreation
4:00 p.m.	Return to living unit for Formal Count
5:00 p.m.	Supper
6:30 p.m.	Evening recreation or programs
9:30 p.m.	Lock down for the evening and Formal Count

Map of Colorado Department of Corrections Prison Facilities



*East Cañon Complex
CSP, CCF, FCF, ACC, SCC, FMCC

Visit the Colorado Department of Corrections Website at:
www.doc.state.co.us
for more information on Prison Facilities

Arkansas Valley Correctional Facility (AVCF)

Location: Crowley, CO

Security Level III

Custody Classification:

Close, Medium,

Minimum Restricted, Minimum

Inmate Population: 1,007

Opened: 1987



Buena Vista Correctional Complex (BVCC)

Location: Buena Vista, CO

Security Level III

Custody Classification:

Close, Medium,

Minimum Restricted,

Minimum

Inmate Population: 1,220

Opened: 1892



Cañon Minimum Centers (CMC)

Arrowhead (ACC), Four Mile (FMCC)
and Skyline (SCC) Correctional Centers

Location: Cañon City, CO
Security Levels I and II
Custody Classification:
Minimum Restricted, Minimum
Inmate Population: 1,250
Opened: ACC (1991),
FMCC (1983), SCC (1964)

*Four Mile
Correctional
Center*



Arrowhead Correctional Center



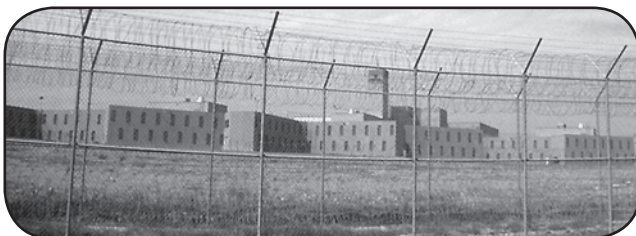
Skyline Correctional Facility

Colorado State Penitentiary (CSP) & Centennial Correctional Facility (CCF)

Location: Cañon City, CO
Security Levels V and IV
Custody Classification:
Administrative Segregation
Close
Inmate Population: 1,400
Opened: CCF (1980)
CSP (1993)



Colorado State Penitentiary



Centennial Correctional Facility

Colorado Territorial Correctional Facility (CTCF)

Location: Cañon City, CO

Security Levels III

Custody Classification:

Close,

Medium,

Minimum Restricted,

Minimum

Inmate Population: 816

Opened: 1871



Delta Correctional Center (DCC)

Location: Delta, CO

Security Level I

Custody Classification:

Minimum

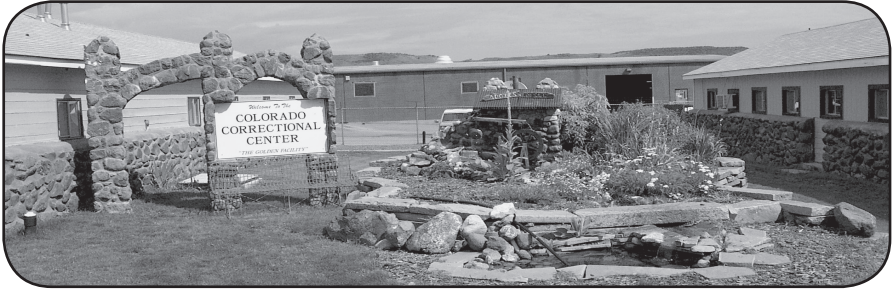
Inmate Population: 484

Opened: 1964



The Denver Complex

Denver Reception and Diagnostic Center (DRDC), Denver Women's Correctional Facility (DWCF), and Colorado Correctional Center (CCC)



Colorado Correctional Center (CCC)

Colorado Correctional Center

Location: Golden, CO

Security Level I

Custody Classification: Minimum

Population: 150

Opened: 1969

Denver Women's Correctional Facility (DWCF)

Location: Denver, CO

Security Level V

Classification: Close, Medium, Minimum Restricted and Minimum

Population: 976

Opened: 1998



Denver Women's Correctional Facility



Denver Reception and Diagnostic Center

Denver Reception and Diagnostic Center (DRDC)

Location: Denver, CO

Security Level V

Classification: Close, Medium, Minimum Restricted and Minimum

Population: 480

Opened: 1991

Fremont Correctional Facility (FCF)

Location: Cañon City, CO

Security Levels III

Custody Classification: Close, Medium,
Minimum Restricted and Minimum

Population: 1,661

Opened: 1962



Limon Correctional Facility (LCF)

Location: Limon, CO

Security Levels IV

Custody Classification:

Segregation,

Close,

Medium,

Minimum Restricted

and Minimum

Population: 960

Opened: 1991



Rifle Correctional Center (RCC)

Location: Rifle, CO

Security Levels I

Custody Classification: Minimum

Population: 192

Opened: 1979



San Carlos Correctional Facility & La Vista Correctional Facility

Location: Pueblo, CO
Security Levels I, II, III, IV, V
Custody Classification:
Administrative Segregation,
Close, Medium,
Minimum Restricted
and Minimum
Population:
SCCF 255 - Opened: 1995
LVCF 564 - Opened: 2004



La Vista Correctional Facility



San Carlos Correctional Center

Sterling Correctional Facility (SCF)

Location: Sterling,
CO
**Security Levels I, II,
III, IV, V**
**Custody
Classification:**
Administrative
Segregation,
Close, Medium,
Minimum Restricted
and Minimum
Population: 2,445
Opened: 1999



Sterling Correctional Facility

Trinidad Correctional Facility (TCF)

Location: Trinidad, CO

Security Levels II

Custody Classification:

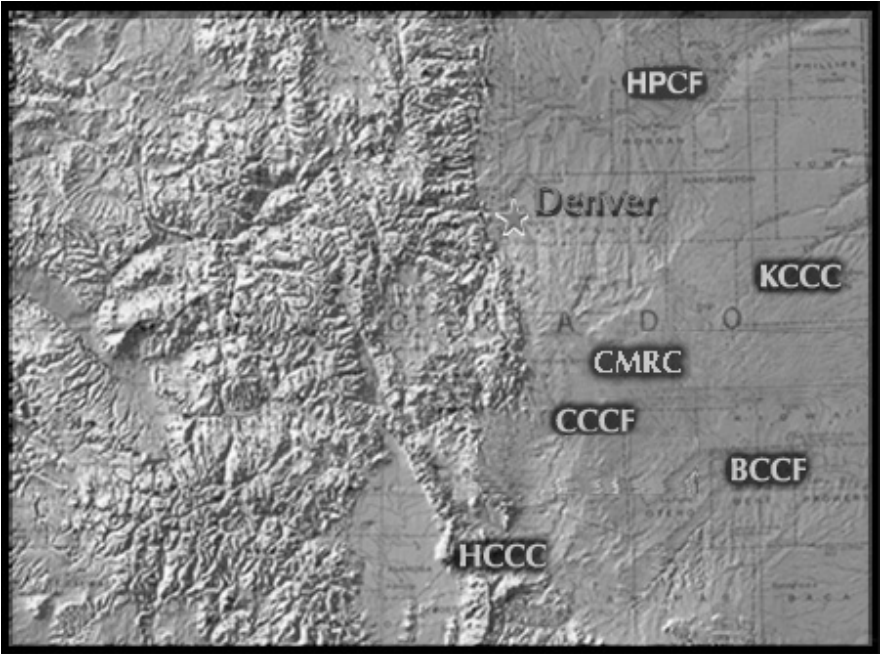
Minimum Restricted and Minimum

Population: 484

Opened: 2000



Map of the Private Prisons in Colorado



Visit the Colorado Department of Corrections Website at:
www.doc.state.co.us
for more information on Private Prisons in Colorado.

Private Prisons in Colorado

**Bent County Correctional Facility (BCCF);
Cheyenne Mountain Re-Entry Center (CMRC)
Crowley County Correctional Facility (CCCF);
Kit Carson Correctional Center (KCCC).**

The Colorado Department of Corrections began contracting for prison bed space with private contract prisons in the mid-1990's. The Private Prison Monitoring Unit was created in 1999 to provide effective oversight of the private contract facilities, ensuring the safety and security of the public, staff, and inmates.

The Monitoring Unit staff audit and assess the level of program services provided at the facilities, make recommendations for improvement, and provide necessary training for private facility staff. Working in partnership with virtually all program areas of the Department of Corrections, the staff coordinate and/or perform periodic formal audits of Food Service, Security, and Clinical Services. They serve as liaison for communications between the Department of Corrections and the facilities, ensuring Departmental changes are implemented in the private sector. The Unit also reviews case management, disciplinary, administrative segregation, visiting, and security threat group processes and issues at the private facilities. The culmination of the Unit's effort is the creation of a seamless transition for inmates transferring between the state-run facilities and the private contract prisons.

The 4 private prisons operating in Colorado are: Bent County Correctional Facility (BCCF), Cheyenne Mountain Reentry Center (CMRC), Crowley County Correctional Facility (CCCF), and Kit Carson Correctional Center (KCCC) with the capacity to house 4,623 offenders.

Bent County Correctional Facility (BCCF)

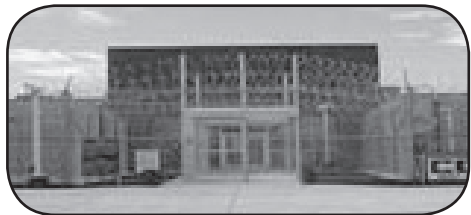
Location: Las Animas, CO

Security Levels III

Custody Classification: Medium, Minimum Restricted and Minimum

Population: 1,387

Opened: 1993



**Cheyenne Mountain
Re-Entry Center (CMRC)**
Location: Colorado Springs, CO
Security Levels III
Custody Classification: Medium
Population: 776
Opened: 2005



**Crowley County
Correctional Facility (CCCF)**
Location: Ordway, CO
Security Levels III
Custody Classification: Medium,
Minimum Restricted and Minimum
Population: 1,634
Opened: 1998



**Kit Carson County
Correctional Center (KCCF)**
Location: Burlington, CO
Security Levels III
Custody Classification: Medium,
Minimum Restricted and
Minimum
Population 826
Opened: 1998

Special Programs

Youthful Offender System (YOS)

The Youthful Offender System (YOS) grew out of the “summer of violence”. In 1993, as a result of a number of highly publicized crimes and the spread of street gang activity to middle class neighborhoods, the state legislature held a special session called by Governor Roy Romer.

YOS was created in that special session and represents a new sentencing option for juvenile cases filed in adult court. YOS provides a “middle tier” program which is a last stop-gap measure between juvenile corrections and the adult system. The direct filed juveniles must be:

- ✓ at least fourteen years of age;
- ✓ less than eighteen years at the time of offense;
- ✓ less than nineteen years of age at the time of sentencing; and
- ✓ convicted of certain violent offenses

The court must first impose a sentence to adult prison, which is then suspended, conditioned upon the successful completion of the sentence to YOS. The YOS sentence imposed must be at least two years, but no more than six years, except in the case of a Class Two Felony, which may be up to seven years in length. The YOS sentence includes a period of community supervision of no less than six months and no more than twelve months.

The Program Emphasizes:

- ✓ a controlled and regimented environment;
- ✓ affirming dignity of self and others;
- ✓ promoting values of work and self-discipline
- ✓ developing useful skills and abilities through enriched programming.

This is accomplished by firm disciplined regimentation with a full-scale of programs emphasizing academics, work, interpersonal relations and prevocational skills within a positive peer culture reinforcing a pro-social, behavioral normative system. The Youthful Offender System consists of four parts, designed to provide a continuum of core programs and specialized services tailored to individual needs.

1. **IDO:** Intake, diagnostic, and orientation program, including a regimented boot camp. During this time an individualized program plan is designed to maximize pro-social development and break down gang identity.
2. **Phase I:** Core programs, supplementary activities, and educational and vocational programs are provided to youthful offenders in a secure setting on the YOS campus in Pueblo.
3. **Phase II:** Administered during the last three months of the period of institutional confinement and during which time the youthful offender is supervised in a twenty-four hour custody residential program that prepares the youth for community reintegration, including job development and life skills education.
4. **Phase III:** Period of community supervision that remains after the completion of Phase II. The offender is supervised through a highly structured surveillance and monitoring system utilizing electronic and direct supervision components. The offender is required to participate in programs to continue the development of pro-social community involvement.

Special Programs

Mental Health

The Mental Health Program manages the mental health needs of the inmate population from intake at the Denver Reception and Diagnostic Center (DRDC), throughout their incarceration, and provides specialized transition services for targeted populations as they leave the facilities on parole, community corrections placements, or discharge.

Inmate mental health needs are assessed and identified on intake at DRDC. Those inmates with significant needs are referred for mental health services in the facilities. Significant mental health needs are defined based on two general criteria.

- Clinical mental health services: provided to those inmates who meet diagnostic criteria for major mental illnesses, or mental retardation/developmental disabilities. These inmates experience impairment in their ability to function and cope with incarceration because of psychiatric symptoms or deficits in intellectual functioning.
- Rehabilitative mental health services: provided within the limits of available resources, to those inmates who present significant, often ingrained, problematic behavior patterns, but who may not be considered mentally ill.

Department of Corrections Mental Health services are primarily directed towards the following six target populations:

Offenders with mental illnesses: These inmates have been diagnosed with major mental illnesses.

Offenders with Developmental Disabilities: These inmates require special services and programs due to impairment in learning and intellectual functioning.

Offenders with acute psychiatric symptoms or distress: These are inmates who may not meet diagnostic criteria for a serious mental illness diagnoses, but who are currently experiencing some form of acute distress related to mental health problems.

Violent/assaultive inmates: The Anger Management Program provides intensive rehabilitative services to inmates who are identified based on a history of assaultive behavior.

Sex Offenders: These inmates are recommended for a specialized intensive treatment program providing offense specific treatment for sex offenders.

Substance Abusers: These inmates have been identified for Drug and Alcohol Services based on a history of substance abuse and/or addiction.

Special Programs

Sex Offender Treatment & Monitoring Program

The Sex Offender Treatment and Monitoring Program (SOTMP) identifies and provides specialized assessment, treatment and monitoring of sex offenders.

Sex offender treatment differs from traditional mental health treatment. Included in the treatment is accountability and monitoring of behaviors. The SOTMP is cognitive behavioral in orientation and has strict requirements for participation. It is designed to utilize the most extensive resources with those inmates who have demonstrated a desire and motivation to change. Therapists are responsible for assessing the offender's treatment needs and making treatment recommendations based on the therapist's clinical judgment of the offender's eligibility and progress in treatment. The treatment phases are explained below:

CORE CURRICULUM: This group is a prerequisite for participation in Phase I of the SOTMP. The focus of the group is on thinking errors, anger management, and stress management. The group meets for a minimum of 18 hours. The time may vary depending on the progress of the group.

PHASE I: Phase I is a time-limited therapy group focusing on the following common problem areas of sex offenders: Why people commit sex offenses, developing victim empathy, cognitive restructuring, sex offense cycles, relapse prevention, sex education, sex roles, social skills, and relationships. Groups meet four times a week and lasts approximately 6 months. Specialized treatment programs are available for the developmentally disabled, offenders with serious mental illness, and Spanish-speaking inmates.

PHASE II: Phase II focuses on changing the inmate's distorted thinking and patterns of behavior as well as helping the inmate develop a comprehensive personal change contract (relapse prevention plan). Participants must keep a daily interactions journal and maintain appropriate behavior. This phase will be offered as an outpatient program and as a therapeutic community treatment program. The therapeutic community treatment program will house sex offenders together in a therapeutic setting operating 24 hours per day, 7 days a week. This phase of the program is open-ended. Offenders remain in treatment until they progress to the community.

The requirements of the SOTMP are designed to convey the inmate's responsibility for change and the depth of the commitment that must be made. The Parole Board prefers to parole sex offenders who have participated in treatment. In addition, The Lifetime Supervision Act of 1998 requires that sex offenders progress in treatment and meet criteria established by the Colorado Sex Offender Management Board in order to receive a recommendation for parole.

Special Programs

Sex Offender Treatment & Monitoring Program - continued

SOTMP recommends inmates for progression to the community supervision when they meet the following criteria:

1. Actively participating in treatment and applying what he or she is learning.
2. Completed a non-deceptive polygraph assessment of his or her deviant sexual history and recent monitoring polygraph exams must also be non-deceptive.
3. Completed a comprehensive personal change contract (relapse prevention plan) which is approved by the SOTMP team.
4. Identified, at a minimum, one approved support person who has attended family/support education and has reviewed and received a copy of the offender's personal change contract.
5. Practicing relapse prevention with no institutional acting out behaviors within the past year.
6. Compliant with any Colorado Department of Corrections psychiatric recommendations for medication which may enhance his or her ability to benefit from treatment and/or reduce his or her risk of re-offense.
7. Able to be supervised in the community without presenting an undue threat.

SPECIALIZED TREATMENT FORMATS FOR LIFETIME SUPERVISION OF SEX OFFENDERS

In 1998 the Colorado Legislature passed the Colorado Lifetime Supervision Act. Under this sentence offenders must serve the term of their minimum sentence in prison and participate and progress in treatment in order to be considered a candidate for parole. The Colorado Department of Corrections has designed treatment formats that give offenders the opportunity to progress in treatment and be considered a candidate for parole within the time period of their minimum sentence. The new treatment formats were designed with the following assumptions:

- Sex offenders will continue in treatment and supervision if placed in community corrections or on parole;
- Sex offenders should be given the opportunity to sufficiently progress in treatment within the time period of their minimum sentence;
- Specialized formats will not ensure sex offender cooperation with, or progress in, treatment; offenders need to be willing to work on programs and be motivated to change;
- Sex offenders must meet all of the Sex Offender Management Board criteria for their assigned format to receive a recommendation for release to parole from the Sex Offender Treatment and Monitoring Program staff.

Special Programs

Drug and Alcohol

Department of Corrections substance abuse services operate under the Division of Alcohol and Drug Services. The mission is "To assess substance abusing offenders and provide them a continuum of interventions for ongoing self-change." Substance abuse treatment programs are offered at all Department of Corrections facilities. Inmate population, administrators, mental health coordinators, and treatment providers influence the drug and alcohol programs available at each facility. However, one commonality across facilities is that treatment is generally offered on a group basis. Individual treatment is largely accessible only at the maximum-security facility, Colorado State Penitentiary, where group treatment is not feasible. Counselors may offer individual sessions to their group participants if the need is indicated.

Available treatment services vary in duration and intensity; assessment information is used as a guide for making treatment placements. The treatment system, consisting of seven categorical levels, is contingent upon the assessment battery administered at DRDC. Scores on the standardized assessment drive placement into one of the treatment levels. The treatment system provides education and therapy services of varying intensity.

Level 1: No Treatment. Offenders assigned to the first level include those who require no substance abuse treatment.

Level 2: Drug Education and Increased Urinalysis. The second treatment level is prescribed for individuals with no clinical diagnosis of substance abuse or dependence and no withdrawal symptoms. The programs use urinalyses and substance abuse education that strives to increase awareness of the effects of drug and alcohol usage.

Level 3: Weekly Outpatient Therapy. Level 3, is structured for individuals who may have a clinical diagnosis of substance abuse or dependence. (Outpatient means weekly group treatment is provided inside the facility.)

Level 4: Intensive Outpatient Therapy. Level 4, intensive outpatient treatment, is designed for individuals who require more structured therapy than is provided through weekly outpatient treatment. The difference between Level 3 and 4 is based upon length of stay, sessions per weeks, hours per week, or total program hours.

Level 5: Intensive Residential Treatment. Level 5 is an intensive residential program (based in the prison living unit) for individuals presenting with serious substance abuse problems. Intensive residential programs typically last 30 days, however, some programs may be as short as 14 days or as long as 45 days. The purpose of level 5 treatment is to provide a brief, intense treatment intervention.

Level 6: Therapeutic Community. Level 6 programs, like level 5, are residential in nature but have greater lengths of stay and are more structured. Typically, therapeutic communities have a 12-month length of stay at a minimum. Level 6 programs use confrontation techniques and place high levels of responsibility on the individual participants for their treatment.

Level 7: Assess for Psychopathy-No Treatment. The final level of treatment, level 7, characterizes individuals with the most serious substance abuse problems. Due to the extreme severity of their psychological problems, individuals in this category are considered inappropriate for treatment.

Special Programs Education and Vocational Education

The mission of the Education Program is to meet the diverse educational needs of inmates through the provision of quality academic, vocational, social, and transitional services, whereby inmates can successfully integrate into society, gain and maintain employment, and become responsible productive individuals.

Academic and vocational education programs vary according to correctional facility center, population, demographics, physical plant size, and custody level. Academic Education strives to improve inmate literacy skills, providing opportunities for General Equivalency Diploma (GED) Certificates and Adult Basic Education (ABE). GED and ABE classes are offered at every prison. All facilities have libraries with relevant educational and recreational materials.

Vocational Education provides occupational skill based instructional programs that deliver at least entry-level marketable vocational skills in one or more occupational fields. There are a total of 36 different vocational programs approved by Community Colleges of Colorado found in 23 facilities. Vocational graduates also have the option of enrolling in U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship Programs, working for Correctional Industries or working institutional maintenance programs.

The suggested relevant route for most inmate students while incarcerated is:

- Academic programs
- to Vocational certification
- to Correctional Industries work programs
- to Community Reintegration.

Courses offered at various facilities

- Adult Basic Education
- General Equivalency Diploma
- Computer Instruction
- Computer Lab
- Special Education
- Library Services
- Victim Education
- Cosmetology / Barbering
- Custodial
- Construction trades
- Heavy Equipment
- Horticulture/ Landscaping
- Welding



Special Programs Inmate Work Programs

Unless physically unable, all offenders must participate in inmate work opportunities or programs while in prison. The Department of Corrections provides a variety of work choices relevant to the current job market, both inside and outside of the facility with Correctional Industries, facility maintenance, and, to the extent possible, public works and community projects. All work assignments are in accordance with the offender's classification and custody needs. Disabled offenders will be allowed to work on special project assignments.

Offenders have the option to refuse to participate in any rehabilitation or treatment program except Adult Basic Education and programs required by statute or ordered by the sentencing court or paroling authority. Offenders may be subject to a restricted privileges status review if they refuse to participate in recommended programs or work assignments.

To save money for the taxpayers of Colorado, the department uses inmate labor in many areas of a facility:

- Laundry
- Food Service
- Maintenance and grounds keeping

Correctional Industries is a government prison business which provides real work opportunities for a portion of the offender population. The division markets products under the business name of Colorado Correctional Industries (CCi). The mission of CCi is to place as many offenders as possible in work situations that mirror the private sector, reduce inmate idleness by providing meaningful on-the-job training, instilling work ethics, and operate as a profit oriented business.



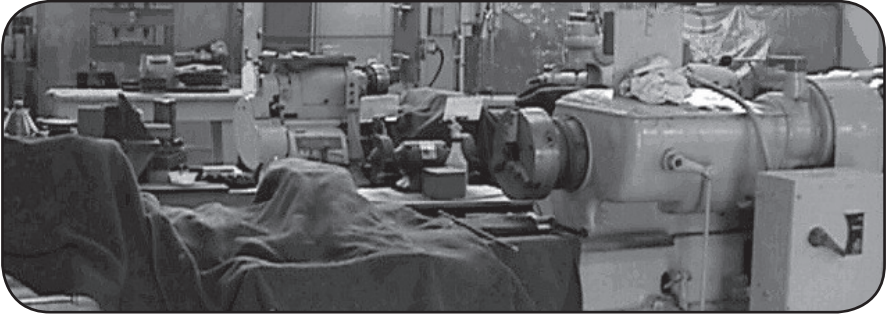
An offender's assignment to any Colorado Department of Corrections work program is carefully reviewed and approved by the facility, including security and program determinations.

The department schedules work and program assignments so that the offender workday approximates the workday in the community. Offenders are expected to work 40 hours per week, Monday through Friday.



Special Programs

Inmate Work Programs - continued



Maintenance Welding Shop



Inmate Working in Maintenance Yard



Tag Plant



Facility Kitchen

Community Corrections Referrals

Community Corrections/halfway house - is an earned option for inmates for transitioning from prison. Community Corrections is a residential program which includes 24 hour supervision, substance abuse treatment, urine testing, employment assistance, mental health service, financial planning, sex offender services, and female specific programs. Offenders who are accepted for placement in community corrections/halfway house are allowed access to the community through monitoring of their location while at work, attending treatment programs, or while on pass.

The Colorado Department of Corrections is required by law to refer most offenders to community corrections or half-way houses. An offender is eligible for referral when:

- Non-violent crimes: the referral will occur approximately 16 months prior to parole eligibility.
- Violent crimes: the referral will occur approximately 6 months prior to parole eligibility.

Community Corrections Boards review the referral information on the offender and make a decision to accept or reject the offender for placement in their community.

As a victim of a violent crime, you have the right to be heard during this referral and review process.

Step One: The offender's case manager will make the referral to the Division of Adult Parole and Community Corrections.

The Division of Adult Parole and Community Corrections is the liaison between the Colorado Department of Corrections and the local Community Corrections Board.

Step Two: When the referral is made, we will notify you and provide you with a Victim Impact Statement. You will have a specific amount of time to complete and return the Victim Impact Statement to our office. This is a critical stage in which you have the right to be heard, but you must complete and return the Victim Impact Statement.

Step Three: We will forward your statement to the Division of Adult Parole and Community Corrections to be placed in the offender's application file. The Victim Impact Statement will be reviewed and considered as part of the referral package.

Community Corrections Referrals - continued

Local Community Corrections Boards throughout the State of Colorado have different procedures for reviewing offenders for placement in their communities. If you would like the opportunity to speak, a victim advocate from our office will accompany you to provide assistance and support.

The Division of Adult Parole and Community Corrections may send the referral for placement to up to four (4) different Community Corrections Boards for review. Your statement will be included in each package.

Accepted for Placement: If the offender is accepted for placement, you will receive notification from our office. It is not unusual for offenders to be placed on a waiting list for a community program. When the offender is moved from prison to the half-way house, we will notify you.

Rejected for Placement: If the offender is rejected for placement, we will notify you.

If the offender is denied placement in a community based half-way house, the Department may refer the offender as often as every six (6) months. It is very important that you submit a new Victim Impact Statement with each referral notification.

Intensive Supervision Program (ISP): Whether in a community corrections half-way house or incarcerated in prison, offenders may, at a certain point in their incarceration, become eligible to reside in the community. The offender will be monitored electronically using ankle bracelets, pagers or Global Positioning Satellite (GPS). We will notify you if the offender is considered for ISP and provide you with a Victim Impact Statement to return.

If the offender is denied placement in a community based half-way house, the department may refer the offender as often as every six (6) months. It is very important that you submit a new Victim Impact Statement with each referral notification.

Meeting with the Colorado Parole Board

Unless the offender is sentenced to Life No Parole, the offender may be eligible to be considered for parole by the Colorado Board of Parole during the period of incarceration. Depending upon the offender's behavior in prison, the offender may be eligible as early as 37.5% of the sentence served. The hearing does not guarantee the offender will be paroled, but he/she has the right to be considered for parole.

A hearing before the Parole Board is really an interview. **This is another critical stage in which you, the victim of a violent crime, have the right to be heard.** Colorado Board of Parole Hearings are "open to the public." Three months prior to the scheduled hearing, our office will notify you and give you the opportunity to submit a written statement and/or to attend the actual hearing. **We urge you to always submit a written letter to the Parole Board.**

If you decide to personally attend the parole hearing

Prison is often an intimidating environment. A victim advocate from our office can attend the hearing with you to provide assistance and support. To enter a Colorado Department of Corrections facility, you must be prepared for the following:

- ✓ Dress appropriately
- ✓ Sign and agree to a "Consent to Search"
- ✓ Present a photo identification
- ✓ Pass through a metal detector and/or pat search
- ✓ All visitors entering a prison must follow department regulations.

These regulations may vary depending upon the security level of the prison.

You may wear a wedding band and 1 religious medallion but the following items are prohibited in prison:

- ✓ Earrings and other piercing jewelry
- ✓ Clothing that exposes shoulders, chest, back, stomach, midriff, or underarms
- ✓ Shorts, sandals, hats, sweats
- ✓ Purses
- ✓ Wallets
- ✓ Tobacco products
- ✓ Matches or lighters
- ✓ Food and beverages
- ✓ Cell phones and pagers

Leave these items locked in your car.

Clothing colors NOT allowed are green, orange, gray, or bright gold.

You will be denied access if dressed inappropriately - please contact our office if you have questions.

Meeting with the Colorado Parole Board - continued

Whenever practical, we will provide you with a secure waiting area away from the offender's family or friends who may be present to attend or participate in the hearing. Priority is usually given to cases in which the victim is present. We ask that you be patient if you have to wait. Remember, the Colorado Department of Corrections is a complex operation where security considerations have priority over all proceedings.

The Parole Hearing

You may speak to the board member in private or with the offender present. The decision is yours. Also, it is your choice to speak on the record or to have your comments remain confidential (off the record). If you speak on the record, your comments will become part of the taped hearing and therefore open to the public.

The Board member will talk to you and listen to your thoughts on parole. Then the member will interview the offender. You may be present throughout the hearing or leave prior to the offender making an appearance.

All of your options will be explained to you again at the Parole Hearing. The Colorado Department of Corrections and the Colorado Board of Parole want you to be as comfortable as possible during this process.

***Note.** It is very important for you to participate in person and/or in writing each time the offender is eligible to meet the Parole Board.*

The Decision of the Parole Board

Our office will notify you of the decision of the Parole Board to grant parole or defer for a period of time. When parole is granted, you are allowed to know the conditions for release to parole. If parole is deferred (denied), the Board will set a time period for the next hearing. The time period may be as short as one year or up to five years depending upon the felony class of the crime of conviction.

Parole Waiver

An offender may choose to waive his/her right to see the Parole Board. Colorado Law requires the offender to waive parole at least 30 days prior to the hearing. The waiver is in effect for 6 months. In special cases, an offender may file an exception to the 6 month time period with the Parole Board.

Discretionary Parole: The Colorado Board of Parole has the discretionary authority to parole or not to parole an offender.

Mandatory Parole (Release): The Parole Board does not have the discretion to parole or not to parole. Mandatory release to parole occurs at approximately 75% of the sentence served for specific crimes.

Community Corrections and Parole Supervision

Parole is a conditional release from prison. The Colorado Department of Correction's Division of Adult Parole and Community Corrections is responsible for the supervision of offenders on parole and in ComCor halfway houses.

The mission of Adult Parole is to provide public safety. Community Parole Officers are Peace Officers, POST (Peace Officers Standards Training) certified and are empowered by statute to carry weapons.

Offenders on parole must follow conditions set by the Colorado Board of Parole. In the event of an alleged violation of parole conditions, the Parole Officer is empowered to arrest or issue a summons to the offender. In these cases the offender will be required to appear at a hearing (revocation hearing) before the Colorado Board of Parole. The Board determines if conditions of parole have been violated. The Colorado Department of Corrections Victim Services Unit will notify registered victims of the Revocation Hearing on the offender in his or her case. Victims may attend these hearings. For more information on Adult Parole Division go to www.doc.state.co.us, click on Community/Parole.

Parole Condition

Offenders will be directed and supervised by Department of Corrections Adult Parole and Community Corrections.

Offenders will be accountable for his/her actions and conduct during this period of parole. Any violation of Conditions can lead to the revocation of parole.

Residence: Parolee shall establish a residence of record and shall reside at such residence in fact and on record; shall not change this place of residence without the consent of his Parole Officer.

Conduct: Parolee shall obey all State/Federal laws

Report: Parolee shall make written, and in person, reports as directed by the Parole Officer. Parolee shall submit urine analysis and other tests as directed. These tests will be paid for by the Parolee.

Weapons: Parolee shall not own, possess, nor have under his control firearms.

Associations: Parolee shall not associate with any person with a criminal record without the permission of the Parole Officer.

Employment: Parolee shall seek and obtain employment.

Alcohol/Drugs: Parolee shall not abuse alcoholic beverages or possess and/or use illegal drugs.

Restitution/Child Support: Parolee shall comply with any court or administrative order to pay restitution and child support.

The Colorado Board of Parole may add additional conditions:

Note: *The Colorado Department of Correction's Victim Services Unit encourages you to contact the Parole Officer supervising the offender in your case if you have any questions or concerns about the offender or parole supervision.*

Frequently Asked Questions

“Why has the offender in my case been moved to a different prison?”

It is not unusual for the Colorado Department of Corrections to move the offender from one prison facility to another. The department may move an offender for several reasons including but not limited to offender custody level, program needs, security concerns, disciplinary issues, and/or bed management.

“I have received a letter stating the offender is being considered for placement into community corrections/halfway house. Enclosed was a Victim Impact Statement (VIS). Will the offender know that a VIS was submitted?”

No, offenders are not aware of VIS submitted to the Community Corrections Boards for review for placement in halfway houses.

“What is parole eligibility?” Parole eligibility is the earliest possible date that “by law” an offender will be reviewed for parole by the Colorado Board of Parole. It is important to remember that the parole eligibility date moves forward with the provisions of “earned time” at a rate of no greater than ten days per month. Offenders with life or death sentences do not receive earned time. Eligibility is the right to go before the Parole Board for consideration of parole; it does not guarantee parole.

“If I send a letter to the Colorado Board of Parole, does the offender read it?”

No. Offenders will not be aware of letters received by the Parole Board. Letters sent to the Colorado Board of Parole are confidential and are not shared with offenders.

“How many members are on the Colorado Board of Parole? Will all members review the offender for parole?”

There are seven, Governor-appointed, Colorado Board of Parole Members. Usually, one parole board official conducts a parole hearing/review. That member has the authority to deny the offender’s parole. However, one parole member cannot recommend or grant parole to an offender convicted of a violent crime. The recommendation for parole will go to the “Full Board.” Full Board means that all members decide and vote to grant (or deny) an offender convicted of a violent crime parole.

“If I decide to attend the parole hearing, do I have to see the offender?”

No. You can do this privately with the Colorado Board of Parole without the offender present.

“While in prison, is there a restraining/protective order against the offender?”

While under the authority of the Colorado Department of Corrections, Administrative Regulations state offenders are not to have contact with victims. If this should occur, please contact us immediately. Should you decide to acquire a restraining order, you must contact your county court or local law enforcement agency. They are available to help you with the steps in obtaining a restraining/protective order.

Contacts and Resources Available to You

Colorado Department of Corrections Website: www.doc.state.co.us

Colorado Department of Corrections Victim Services Unit

2862 S. Circle Dr.
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
(719) 226-4709
(800) 886-7688
(719) 226-4485

www.doc.state.co.us

www.doc.state.co.us (click on) Victim Notification Program

Colorado Department Of Correction Time Computation Office

275 West Highway 50
Cañon City, CO 81212
(719) 275-4170

Colorado Department of Corrections Restitution Office

275 West Highway 50
Cañon City, CO 81212
(719) 269-4052

Colorado Department of Correction's Inmate Locator

2862 South Circle Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80906
(719) 226-4880

www.doc.state.co.us

www.doc.state.co.us (click on) Finding an Inmate

Colorado Board of Parole

1600 West 24th Street Bldg. 54
Pueblo, CO 81003
(719) 583-5800
(719) 583-5805 (fax)

Attorney Generals Victim Services (for notification on appeals)

1525 Sherman Street - 7th Floor
Denver, CO 80203
(303) 866-5788

Voices of Victims

625 E. Evans Ave
Denver, CO 80210
(303) 777-0112
(303) 777-7983 (fax)
www.voicesofvictims.org

COVA (Colorado Organization for Victims Assistance)

90 Galapago St
Denver, CO 80223
(303) 861-1160 / (303) 861-1265 (fax)
800-261-2682
www.ColoradoCrimeVictims.org

Sex Offender Registration Website

www.sor.state.co.us

Glossary

Additional terms and definitions can be found at www.doc.state.co.us.

Absconder: A parolee whose whereabouts are unknown and attempts to locate him/her have failed.

Administrative Segregation: The most restrictive custody level imposed upon an offender. This custody level will be utilized only after a Classification Hearing has determined this custody level is required.

Classification: The judgmental and discretionary process whereby an offender is regularly reviewed to determine the level of custody and facility assignment.

Community Based Program (Halfway House): Any private or public agency under contract to the Department of Public Safety or the Department of Corrections to provide residential and/or non residential treatment and transitional services for Department of Corrections offenders.

Community Corrections Board: The governing body of any unit of local government, or a corrections board which may be appointed by the governing body of a unit of local government, or any unit of local government, pursuant to Colorado State Revised Statute 17-27-102 (2).

Community Parole Officer (CPO): An employee assigned to the Divisions of Adult Parole and Community Corrections whose primary duties include investigation and supervision of offenders on parole and supervision of inmates assigned to community based programs, ISP and the Youthful Offender System Community Supervision. A CPO is a Class IA Peace Officer, in accordance with state statute, and has authority to make arrests in the performance of official duties.

Computation of Time The process of calculating the actual length of time of incarceration and supervision of an offender based upon multiple factors including state laws, earned time, jail time and other qualifiers.

Conditions of Parole: Stipulations of parole as imposed by the Board and contained in the Parole Board Action Sheet and the Parole Agreement/Parole Order.

Confidential: Held in confidence. To be shared only with those whose official capacity dictates their absolute need to know, or by order of a court.

Custody Level: The degree of management, supervision, programs and work assignments required for each offender. Custody level utilizes the terms of Minimum, Minimum-Restricted, Medium, Close and Administrative Segregation.

Discretionary Parole: The Colorado Board of Parole has the authority to grant parole or deny parole of an inmate.

Glossary - continued

Diversity: The full utilization of all human resources that creates a climate of mutual understanding and respects differences and similarities.

Escape: An act whereby an offender, without proper authority, leaves the confines of the facility or fails to return to official custody following temporary leave granted for a specific purpose and for a specified period of time.

Intensive Supervision Program (ISP): The structured supervision, monitoring, and guidance of the activities of an offender living in an approved residence.

Mandatory Release: The Parole Board does not have the discretion to parole or not to parole. Mandatory release to parole occurs at approximately 75% of the sentence served for specific crimes.

Maximum/New Arrival: The custody designation given to an offender that is received at the Denver Reception and Diagnostic Center (DRDC) from the Jail Backlog, pending initial classification determination.

Offender: Any individual under the supervision of the criminal justice system to include community correction clients, parolees, correctional clients, probationers, or youthful offender system residents.

Parole Agreement/Order: The document used by the Parole Board and issued by Time and Release Operations which authorizes the release of an offender to parole status. It also includes the conditions and date of parole.

Parole Board: A board appointed by the Governor of Colorado with absolute discretion to grant, deny, set conditions, continue, or revoke parole for a Department of Corrections offender.

Parole Board Review/Hearing: Shall refer to the Board being in session to review cases for consideration of release to parole and the conditions of such release decisions.

Parole Board Waiver: Shall refer to the form used for an offender's request for waiving personal appearance before the Colorado State Parole Board. This shall apply only to discretionary parole cases.

Parole Officer: Are established in statute as Peace Officers. They are empowered by statute to carry weapons, make arrests, respond to escapes and attempted escapes, transport prisoners and respond to critical incidents and law enforcement emergencies. Additionally Community Parole Officers conduct investigations into the suitability of parole sponsors, the whereabouts of parole absconders, and other matters related to the supervision of offenders in the community.

Glossary

Parole Eligibility Date (PED): The earliest possible parole release date which is established by length of sentence, computation of time served, good time credits earned and/or lost, and governed by statute.

Parolee: A person committed to the custody of the Executive Director of the Department of Corrections who has been officially assigned to parole status by the parole board or an interstate parolee being supervised in Colorado under the terms of the Interstate Compact.

Private Contract Prison: Any private correctional facility or any jail or other detention facility operated by a political subdivision of the state that houses state prisoners or that houses offenders from another state whose incarceration in this state is approved pursuant to section 17-1-104.5; except that “non-state owned prison facility” shall not include a jail or other detention facility operated by a political subdivision of the state that only houses state prisoners pursuant to a contract under section 16-11-308.5 (2), CRS, or a facility in which a community based program is operated pursuant to Article 27 of this title.

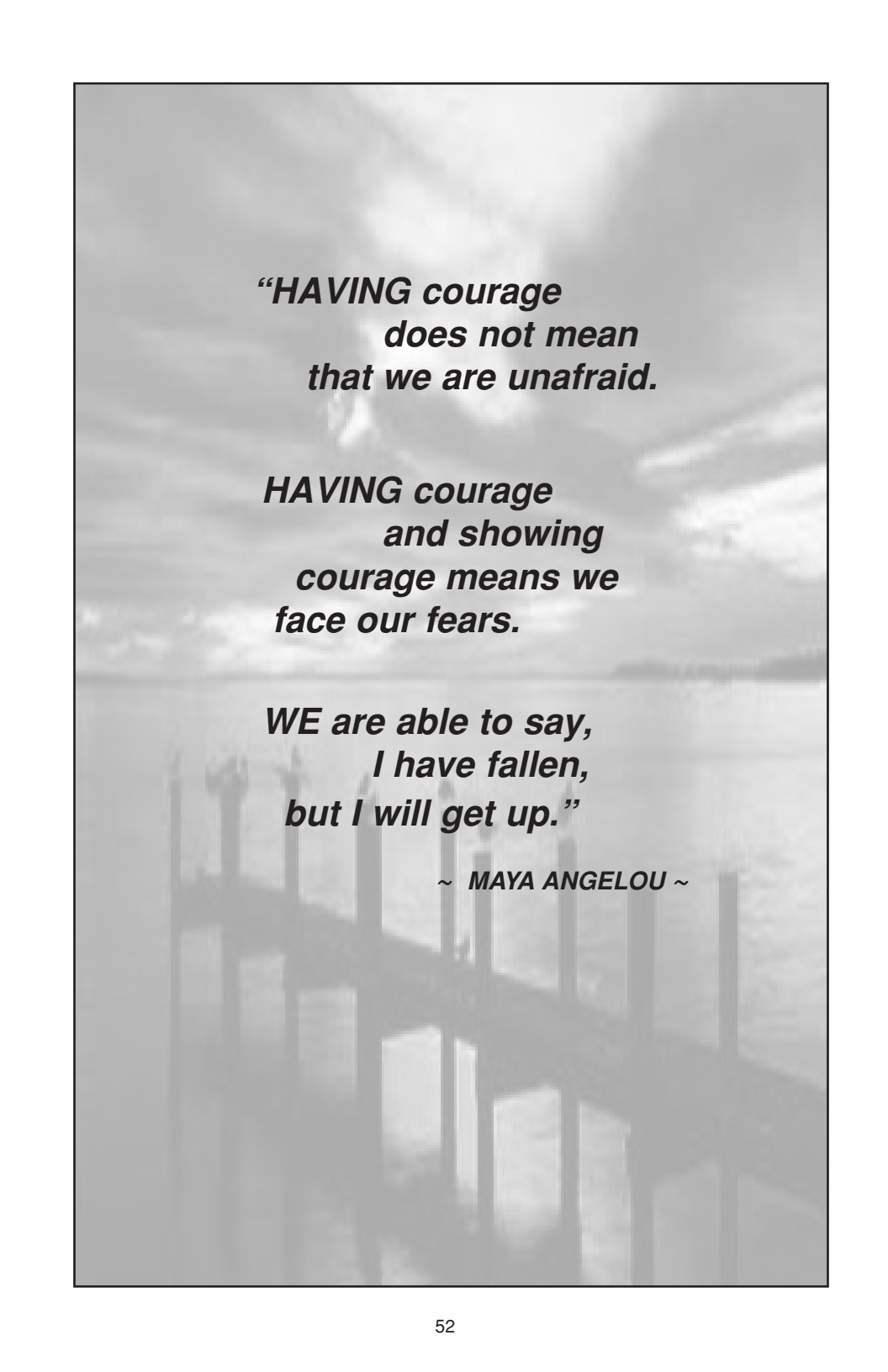
Restitution: Any pecuniary (monetary) loss suffered by a victim, and includes, but is not limited to, all out-of-pocket expenses, interest, loss of use of money, anticipated future expenses, rewards paid by victims, money advanced by law enforcement agencies, adjustment expenses, and other losses or injuries proximately caused by an offender’s conduct that can be reasonably calculated and recompensed in money.

Revocation: The process in which a parolee is reviewed by the Colorado Board of Parole for violation(s) of set parole conditions.

Security Level: The physical features and operational requirements of a facility. Security levels are referred to in terms of Level I, Level II, Level III, Level IV, and Level V.

Supervision: 1. Constant, direct visual observation of an offender at all times. 2. Intermittent: Direct visual observation of an offender at fifteen minute intervals or as specified by the Administrative Head.

Victim: As defined in 24-4.1-302 (5), “Any natural person against whom any crime has been perpetrated or attempted, UNLESS THE PERSON IS ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE CRIME OR A CRIME ARISING FROM THE SAME CONDUCT, CRIMINAL EPISODE, OR PLAN as crime is defined under the laws of this state or of the United States, OR, IF SUCH PERSON IS DECEASED OR INCAPACITATED, THE PERSON’S SPOUSE, PARENT, CHILD, SIBLING, GRANDPARENT, SIGNIFICANT OTHER, OR OTHER LAWFUL REPRESENTATIVE.



***“HAVING courage
does not mean
that we are unafraid.***

***HAVING courage
and showing
courage means we
face our fears.***

***WE are able to say,
I have fallen,
but I will get up.”***

~ MAYA ANGELOU ~