



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1110

November 3, 2020

Joanna Carns
Office of Corrections Ombuds
2700 Evergreen Parkway NW
Olympia, WA 98505

Dear Ms. Carns:

The Washington Department of Corrections appreciates the opportunity to respond to the OCO Report on the 'investigation into the restriction of an individual from extended family visitation (EFV) with his daughter for three years due to one positive urinalysis' completed by the Office of Corrections Ombuds.

Recommendation	Response
Move the 752 infraction from a three year restriction to a one year restriction.	The department thanks you for the recommendation your office is making regarding EFV restrictions pertaining to a 752 infraction. The Department sees merit in reviewing all sanctions, infractions, and lengths of suspensions. The decision has been made that Assistant Secretary for Prisons, Rob Herzog, will work with staff to review the current sanctions, infractions, and length of suspensions and create recommendations by March 1, 2021, for the assistant secretary's consideration. There will be an invitation extended to the Ombuds office to designate a representative from their office to partake in the review. Changes that are adopted and implemented will be applied retroactively to any incarcerated individual who applies for consideration after an announcement to the incarcerated population is made by Prisons Administration of the implemented changes.

The information provided by the OCO was useful to ensure the Department of Corrections is doing everything it can to ensure an incarcerated person's time in the agency's facilities is a fair and safe space for all incarcerated individuals.

We also appreciate your team's understanding of the unique processes across facilities and the addition of policies and procedures being put in place to address them. We are working towards

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proactivity and improving quality assurance processes throughout the department. Moving forward, Washington Department of Corrections will continue to collaborate with the Office of the Corrections Ombuds to implement additional policies, procedures, and security measures to continue to improve the facility operations.

Sincerely,

Steve Sinclair, Secretary
Washington Department of Corrections