



Central Office
OFFICE
MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 15, 2014
TO: All Offenders
FROM: John R. King, Assistant Commissioner – Facilities Division
SUBJECT: Offender phone rate change

On August 9, 2013, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted the *Inmate Calling Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, lowering the cost for all interstate long distance telephone calls for incarcerated individuals. This will allow offenders to communicate with family and friends at an affordable cost.

On February 6, 2014, Global Tel Link (GTL) implemented the FCC ruling. A long distance interstate debit/prepaid call was lowered to .21 cents a minute, and long distance interstate collect call was lowered to .25 cents per minute.

The Minnesota Department of Corrections has decided to initiate a pilot project at MCF-Moose Lake/Willow River and MCF-Faribault, implementing a flat rate for all debit telephone calls. This will allow for all offenders to make affordable long distance debit telephone calls.

LOCAL UP
FROM .37
FOR 15 MIN

On May 15, 2014, the pilot project will be implemented utilizing a flat rate, reducing the telephone call rate to .07 cents per minute for all debit telephone calls, both local and long distance. A local or long distance 15 minute call will now cost \$1.05, plus applicable taxes.

The lower cost flat rate will eliminate the need for the use of technological assistance, such as "Google Voice," to make long distance calls.

Using such technological assistance is a violation of DOC Division Directive 302.210, "Offender Telephone Use."

With the implementation of the flat rate, the Office of Special Investigations (OSI) will begin blocking all local telephone prefixes on May 15, 2014. If you have friends or family who live locally, contact OSI by kite with verification of their local telephone number by May 15, 2014.

Cellular telephones with a local prefix are acceptable, but not necessary with the flat phone rate.

Contributing to a safer Minnesota

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER