

Wyoming Correctional Facility Group Donates Money

The Wyoming Correctional Facility Diversity Management Committee recently donated the proceeds from a fundraising effort to two local charities. To read more, [click here](#).

Arun Gandhi Opens Season for Nonviolence at Groveland Correctional Facility

Groveland Correctional Facility recently held the opening ceremony for its 6th Annual Season for Nonviolence. To read more, [click here](#).

DOCCS Participates in Cystic Fibrosis Stair Climb Challenge

Earlier this month DOCCS staff participated in the annual Cystic Fibrosis Stair Climb in Albany. To read more, [click here](#).

Cape Vincent Correctional Facility Celebrates MLK Day

Staff at the Cape Vincent Correctional Facility celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day by taking part in the annual statewide food drive. To read more, [click here](#).

NOTICE TO FRIENDS AND FAMILIES OF NEW YORK STATE INMATES

Transition to new phone system complete at all correctional facilities

The New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision has entered into a new agreement with Securus Technology, who will soon be providing the inmate telephone system at each state operated facility at a reduced rate. Those wishing to accept calls from incarcerated individuals in NYS Correctional Facilities are required to have an account with Securus. An account can be created by visiting the website (www.securustech.net) or calling them at 1-800-844-6591. The account can be created and not funded until the individual correctional facility is transitioned to the new vendor.

The calling rate is dropping from less than a nickel at \$.048 to \$.043 per minute for all calls terminating within the United States, Canada, and US Territories (American Samoa, Federated states of Micronesia, Guam, Midway Islands, Puerto Rico, and US Virgin Islands) and there are no additional call set-up or connect fees. The chart below shows the calling rate for the average twenty-minute call. Applicable governmental taxes and fees are not included and will also apply.

Description	Old Rate	New Rate
Charge per minute	\$.048	\$.043
Cost of a 20-minute call	\$0.96	\$0.86

Neither the State nor the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision receive any commission.

Securus offers three (3) main forms of billing:

- A Local Exchange Carrier (LEC)-billed account bills collect calls from the facility to the local phone company, subject to local phone company approval. Charges appear on the called party’s monthly phone bill
- A Direct-billed account allows collect calls to be billed monthly from Securus Correctional Billing Services. The called party creating the account will be subject to a credit check (as allowed by state regulations) to create a Direct Billed account

- An AdvanceConnect/Prepaid account allows the call recipient to fund an account in advance and manage how much money they would like to spend on collect calls. This account can be funded by mailing a check or money order to Securus, visiting a MoneyGram location, or utilizing a credit card online or over the phone. There is a \$3.00 fee for credit card usage.

A new account MUST be created AND funded before calls can be accepted.

To view a copy of the planned schedule for installing the Securus system at New York State correctional facilities [click here](#)

To create an account, contact Securus at 1-800-844-6591 or on the internet at www.securustech.net. They can also answer any questions or concerns.

As NYS Department of Corrections and Community Supervision facilities transition to Securus as the new provider of Inmate Telephone Services, those with GTL AdvancePay accounts can request a refund by contacting GTL at 1-800-777-2522. It is important to take note of the transition schedule ([changes schedule](#)) to ensure you do not close your account too soon. Also, GTL continues to provide phone services to county jails, as such, if you communicate with friends or family in one of these locations, you may not want to close your account.

GTL Customer Service is available to assist with closing your account, issuing a refund, and any other questions regarding GTL service locations. Contact them at 1-800-777-2522 or on the web at <https://web.connectnetwork.com/>.

[For more DOCCS NEWS](#)

Youth Pardon Program

As of December 21, 2015, Governor Andrew Cuomo is offering executive pardons to New Yorkers convicted of non-violent crimes at ages 16 and 17 who have been crime free for a minimum of ten years since their offense. For individuals who receive this pardon, the New York State Office of Court Administration has stated that it will restrict public access to criminal history records, meaning that they will not be available to private employers, landlords or other companies that seek this information. To learn more, and to find out if you are eligible for this relief, please go to the following website and click the [Pardons](#) tab.

Pro Bono Clemency Program

To assist individuals in applying for clemency, Governor Cuomo is partnering with several organizations from the legal community to provide free clemency petition services to individuals incarcerated by the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision. Although individuals may apply for clemency without the assistance of an attorney, free assistance from one will enhance the quality of an inmate's application and present his or her best case to the Governor. To learn more about this process please contact the Executive Clemency Bureau at PardonsAndCommutations@doccs.ny.gov

New Location for Brooklyn Community Supervision Office

The Brooklyn Area Community Supervision Office has re-located to [15 2nd Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11215](#).

DOCCS Joins Other State Agencies in Hiring Veterans

Executive Law § 369 was amended to include Chapter 17-A, known as the Veteran's Employment Act. It is now the policy of New York State to hire discharged veterans for temporary appointments and temporary-hourly positions within state agencies. In order to be eligible an individual must have served on active duty in the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard or the Reserved Components of the Armed Forces of the United States or served