

## **New Jersey Department of Corrections**

### Decision on news media representative and/or freelancer requests

(a) The Office of Public Information, New Jersey Department of Corrections, in consultation with the Commissioner or designee, shall review and make a decision regarding all requests by news media representatives and/or freelancers to photograph, interview, record, film and/or videotape an inmate(s) and shall notify the Administrator of the correctional facility of the decision in writing. If the request is approved, the Office of Public Information shall provide to the Administrator written verification of the name and number of the inmate(s) and the audio/visual mode(s) that has been authorized.

(b) The Administrator of the correctional facility, in consultation with the Commissioner or designee, may request a subsequent review of the approval from the Office of Public Information to news media representatives and/or freelancers when the interests of discipline, safety, security, and/or the orderly operation of the correctional facility would be disrupted by the inmate or the activity of the news media representatives and/or freelancers. If the decision is overturned and the request denied after the subsequent review, the Administrator shall provide a written report within 24 hours to the Commissioner or designee as to the reasons therefor.

(c) Inmate contact visits with news media representatives and/or freelancers shall be prohibited when the inmate has been found guilty of a prohibited act identified in a zero tolerance policy as defined in N.J.A.C. 10A:1-2.2 and established at N.J.A.C. 10A:4-12. In those cases in which contact visits have been terminated, every effort will be made to provide a non-contact visit consistent with the orderly operation of the correctional facility.

For more info, see Chapter 19 of the NJ Administrative Code, 10A, which can be accessed at [www.LexisNexus.com/njoal](http://www.LexisNexus.com/njoal).