Adult Custodial Rule 1
Management of Prisoners in Confinement

Legislation referred to:  
Prisons Act 1981 ss 43, 82
Prisons Regulations 1982 rr 68, 69, 70, 71, 72

1. Placement of prisoners in separate confinement

1.1 Prisoners may be placed in separate confinement:
   a) for the purpose of maintaining good government, good order or security in a prison (s 43), or
   b) as a penalty imposed following a disciplinary hearing or conviction (s 82).

1.2 Prisoners can be placed in separate confinement in either:
   a) the prisoner's sleeping quarter, or
   b) a punishment cell.

2. Treatment of prisoners in separate confinement

2.1 Prisoners in separate confinement must be informed of the reason for the confinement and the period of confinement.

2.2 The Designated Superintendent or Unit Manager in charge of the prisoner may, where appropriate, inform the prisoner’s family that the prisoner has been placed in separate confinement.

2.3 Prisoners in separate confinement must:
   a) be held in a ventilated and well lit cell
   b) have access to daily exercise, adequate clothing, food, water and sanitation facilities.

2.4 Prisoners in separate confinement must be visited at least once each shift by the Unit Manager to ensure that the health and welfare of the prisoners are maintained.

2.5 Prisoners in separate confinement must be visited at least once daily by the Designated Superintendent or a senior member of the prison administration to ensure that the health and welfare of the prisoners are maintained.

2.6 Suitably qualified health service personnel must be provided access to prisoners in separate confinement on a regular, preferably daily, basis to monitor the physical and mental health of the prisoners.

2.7 Staff involved with prisoner programs shall be provided access, at the discretion of the Designated Superintendent, to prisoners in separate confinement.

3. Reporting requirements

3.1 Officers must promptly provide a report in relation to the incident that gave rise to a prisoner being placed in separate confinement under paragraph 1.1(a).
3.2 A written occurrence record must be kept for each prisoner in separate confinement. The record must document at a minimum:

- the regime for access to facilities and privileges, as determined by the Designated Superintendent in accordance with paragraph 4
- identification of officers on-duty
- lockup, unlock results
- night cell checks or cell openings (times)
- complaints relating to routine
- searching times, and results
- offender behaviour with a brief comment relating to reasons (eg bad news, drug or alcohol consumption, misconduct)
- visitors to the area (eg superintendent, health service personnel);
- exercise, meal and shower times
- movements (eg work, medical, offender treatment programs, religious attendance)
- other observations or comments as necessary.

4. Regime for prisoners in separate confinement

4.1 The Designated Superintendent must determine a regime for access to facilities and privileges for each prisoner placed in separate confinement in accordance with Appendices 1-3.

4.2 The Designated Superintendent must endorse each item in the regime for which the Superintendent has exercised his/her discretion.

4.3 Each prisoner placed in separate confinement and all relevant officers must receive a copy of the regime for that prisoner.

5. Request for further order (s 43)

5.1 A request for a further order to continue the period of confinement should, as far as is practicable, be made at least 7 days prior to expiration of the existing order.

6. Approved

Rule made pursuant to s 35 of the Prisons Act 1981 by the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Corrective Services with the approval of the Minister.

Commissioner:

Minister:

Date: 2 May 2002