
MEMORANDUM

TO: WMRWCC POPULATION
FROM: COLLEEN STOCKS, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT
SUBJECT: PERSONAL CONTACT VISITATION
DATE: OCTOBER 23, 2023

The Criminal Investigation Unit of the Hampden County Sheriff's Office is currently conducting an investigation of a serious incident where the privilege of personal contact visits was abused by the introduction of contraband into the facility. The passing of ANY unauthorized item poses a potential risk to the orderly operations of this facility. However, the introduction of dangerous contraband, such as drugs or weapons, puts all of us at serious risk of harm.

Sheriff Nick Cocchi and the staff of the Western Massachusetts Regional Women's Correctional Center recognize that personal contact visits can play a critical role in maintaining healthy relationships with loved ones who support your return to the community. However, personal contact visits are a privilege and not a right. Another incident involving a serious breach of contact visitation rules may result in the elimination of ALL personal contact visitations in this facility.

Your safety and the safety of our staff are the priority of this administration. It is our hope that this warning is taken seriously by all. As a reminder, please read the statute below regarding the criminal charges associated with this conduct.

Mass General Laws Chapter 268, Section 28 Delivering drugs or articles to prisoners in correctional institutions or jails; possession

Section 28. Whoever gives or delivers to a prisoner in any correctional institution, or in any jail or house of correction, any drug or article whatever, or has in his possession within the precincts of any prison herein named with intent to give or deliver to any prisoner any such drug or article without the permission of the superintendent or keeper, shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for not more than five years, or in a jail or house of correction for not more than two years, or by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars.