

**RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Title of Rule: Access to Institutional Facilities by Attorneys and Their Agents (240-RICR-20-00-3)

Rule Identifier: 240-RICR-20-00-3

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: April 25, 2025

Hearing Date: May 9, 2025

End of Public Comment: May 27, 2025

Rulemaking Authority:

R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-56-10(22)

Powers of the director; R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-56-1

Declaration of Policy.

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

The Department seeks to establish an amendment to 240-RICR-20-00-3 Access to Institutional Facilities by Attorneys and Their Agents to enhance safety, security, and operational efficiency within its facilities. RIDOC is experiencing an unprecedented need for more efficient and effective measures to detect and address potential threats related to contraband. Historically, this contraband has included liquids, powders, and other substances on or in incoming mail and documents. More recently, there has been a sizeable uptick in the conveyance of contraband via mail and other documents by chemically treated paper. These materials pose significant risks to facility security and the health of both staff and incarcerated individuals.

Please note this rule was initially posted for public notice on 4/24/25; however, the document was not fully legible due to a technical glitch in the system. This posting replaces the document to correct the technical glitch.

Additional Information and Public Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed amendment until May 27, 2025 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Lindsey Hughes
Department of Corrections
18 Wilma Schesler Lane
Policy and Auditing Unit
Cranston, RI 02920
DOC.Policy@doc.ri.gov

Public Hearing:

A public hearing, in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.5, to consider the proposed amendment shall be held at which time and place all persons interested therein will be heard. This hearing is subject to R.I. Gen. Laws Chapter 42-46, Open Meetings.

Public Hearing Information:

Date: May 9, 2025

Time: 11:00 A.M.

Location: 1 Capitol Hill
Powers Building
Conference Room A
Providence, RI, 02908

The place of the public hearing is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captioners) is needed, or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please call 401-222-2000 or RI Relay 711 at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made to provide such assistance at no cost to the person requesting. For questions regarding available parking, please contact the agency staffperson listed above.

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

Please see attached Benefit Cost Analysis.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation contact the agency staffperson listed above.