



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1100

February 17, 2021

TO: All Work Release Incarcerated Individuals

FROM: Susan Leavell [Signature on file]
Reentry Senior Administrator

SUBJECT: Cell phone pilot program

The department continues to work towards identifying areas where we can bring technology safely to our incarcerated population. We understand the importance of technology as it pertains to employment, social interactions, and connections to services and work release facilities.

The department will be rolling out a pilot program for possession and use of personal cell phones by residents in all work release facilities beginning February 22, 2021. There will be an agreement associated with the cell phone that will define the parameters for the use and possession of cell phones, which will require your signature and acknowledgement.

We are excited to be able to support resident's reentry by utilizing the important connection that cell phones bring to the general population. Please understand this opportunity is a huge step forward and will require communication and patience as we roll the process out. Below you will find the information that will be contained in each work release handbook to clarify the parameters of obtaining cell phones. The agreement will be at each facility for you review and signatures prior to securing any cellular device.

To assist in your transition to the community, as well as provide an easy way to maintain contact with others (the facility, your employer, your support system) residents are now allowed to have and use cell phones while in work release. This may be a cell phone provided by and paid for by your family/support person(s), a phone provided by your employer, or a phone you are authorized to purchase. The initial CSRF loan, provided by DOC, is not to be used for this purchase. However, the facility has cell phones available for check out until you are able to obtain your own. Residents who purchase their own cell phone need to choose phones that are "pay as you go" and are not allowed to enter into a contract with a provider. This limits the financial burden to residents if there is a change of any resident's status. These phones can be found at local retailers such as Walmart and Target. If you are receiving a phone from family/friend(s), they can provide, either a "pay as you go" phone or they can choose to be responsible for coverage/charges by adding you to their existing plan. Your ability to have and use your cell phone is subject to the Cell Phone Agreement document that you will need to agree to and sign. Additional conditions may be added based on your Judgement and Sentence and your individual case plan. Violation of the agreement may result in an infraction, in loss of phone usage, loss of good conduct time

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and/or termination from work release and return to total confinement.