I. **AUTHORITY:** TCA 4-3-603, TCA 4-3-606, and TCA 39-16-201.

II. **PURPOSE:** To establish departmental guidelines governing non-contact visitation of inmates.

III. **APPLICATION:** To the Assistant Commissioner of Prisons, institutional employees, contract employees, inmates of facilities with a minimum restricted custody or higher security housing component, and privately managed institutions.

IV. **DEFINITIONS:**

A. **Non-Contact Visitation:** The placement of an inmate and his/her visitor(s) in separate locations where no physical contact can be made but visual and auditory communication can occur.

B. **Non-Contact Visitation Booth:** A booth that, while permitting verbal interaction between the inmate and a visitor, prohibits any physical contact.

C. **Restrictive Housing:** The purposeful separation of inmates from the general inmate population in confinement or housing where measures are taken to provide maximum security and/or to control their circumstances or circumscribe their freedom. This general status is for either punitive or administrative reasons, that are subject to inmates remaining in their cells up to 22 hours each day.

V. **POLICY:** Wardens who have a minimum restricted custody or higher security housing component at their facility shall develop a local policy that governs non-contact visiting.

VI. **PROCEDURES:**

A. Institutional policy shall define the reasons for use of a non-contact visitation area and may include, but not be limited to, the following:

   1. An alternative to suspension of visitation privileges
   2. Full reinstatement of visitation privileges following a suspension
   3. When an inmate is in maximum custody/restrictive housing
   4. When there is a reasonable suspicion that contraband will be exchanged
   5. When mandated by the institutional disciplinary committee
   6. Unacceptable social behavior during current or prior visitation
7. When the inmate is in segregation, pending disciplinary hearing, or protective custody

8. At the request of the visitor

9. Media interviews

B. Institutional policy shall address the following issues related to non-contact visitation:

1. Identify the location of non-contact visitation areas and what segment of the population is to use each.

2. Identify the duration of non-contact visitation restrictions and the review process to reinstate routine visitation privileges.

3. Identification of inmates required to visit in non-contact visitation area.
   a. Maximum custody
   b. Segregation (including those pending a hearing)
   c. Protective custody:

   Protective custody inmates who are involved in special programs and who are recommended by the Warden may be granted contact visits upon written approval of the Assistant Commissioner of Prisons upon receipt of a written program request from the Warden. The recommendation must contain a detailed explanation of the program and a visitation schedule.
   d. Others who fit the criteria established in Section VI.(A) of this policy.

C. Inmate and visitor searches shall be conducted in accordance with Policy #506.06.

D. The requirements of Policy #507.01 shall apply to all visitors accessing non-contact visitation facilities.

E. The local policy shall detail the security procedures regarding non-contact visitation, including:
   1. How doors are to be secured
   2. The availability of restroom facilities for the inmate and the visitor
   3. Placement of inmate in non-contact visitation area prior to the visitor being admitted into the visitation area
   4. Release of inmate from non-contact visitation area after the visitor has vacated the area
F. The inmate shall have no physical contact with the visitor(s) at any time for any reason. Any attempts to affect physical contact between the visitor and the inmate shall be cause to terminate the visit and the appropriate disciplinary action shall be initiated.

G. Non-contact visits shall not exceed two hours.

H. Non-contact visitation shall be consistently monitored by institutional staff.

I. The inmate shall be notified in writing of the circumstances requiring non-contact visitation. A copy shall be provided to the visitation supervisor to be noted in the inmate’s visitation file.

J. Visitors will be notified of the non-contact visitation requirement prior to being processed.

K. The Warden/designee must approve/disapprove all non-contact visits.

VII. ACA STANDARDS: 5-ACI-4A-21 and 5-ACI-4B-21.

VIII. EXPIRATION DATE: September 15, 2023.