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 | INFORMATIONAL LETTER |
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TRANSMITTAL: 91 INF-28

TO: Commissioners of
 Social Services
 Directors of Voluntary
 Child Care agencies

DIVISION: Family and
 Children
 Services

DATE: May 31, 1991

SUBJECT: Inmate/Parent-Child Visitation

SUGGESTED

DISTRIBUTION: Director of Social Services
 Children Services Staff
 Staff Development Coordinators

CONTACT PERSON: Any questions concerning this release should be
 directed to the appropriate Regional Office
 BRO, Linda Brown (716) 847-8145; RRO, Linda Kurtz,
 (716) 238-8200; SRO, Jack Klump, (315) 428-3235;
 ARO, John O'Connor, (518) 432-2751; MRO, Fred Cantlo,
 (212) 804-1120

ATTACHMENTS: There are no attachments to this INF

FILING REFERENCES

Previous ADMs/INFs	Releases Cancelled	Dept. Regs.	Soc. Serv. Law & Other Legal Ref.	Manual Ref.	Misc. Ref.
			384-b (7)(f)		

Social Services Law Section 384-b(7)(f) requires authorized agencies (including social services districts) having custody of a child or children whose parent(s) is/are incarcerated to make arrangements for visitation between children and the parent(s) at the correctional facility. Effective January 2, 1991, in keeping with the fiscal constraints facing the state, the New York State Department of Correctional Services (DOCS) suspended weekday visitation at its medium and minimum security correctional facilities. DOCS is aware of the statutory provisions, however, which require the facilitation of visitation between children and incarcerated parents.

Requests for weekday visitation between children in custody and incarcerated parents at medium and minimum security DOCS facilities should be directed, on at least 24 hour notice, to the Superintendent's Office at each correctional facility operated by DOCS. DOCS will endeavor to schedule such visitation at a mutually convenient time. To the extent practicable, please attempt to schedule such visitation in a manner that will maximize utilization of State and local resources (i.e. transporting multiple families for visitation on the same day, etc.).

Given the priority of maintaining the continuity of family relationships for children in care, the Department encourages every effort to accommodate the Inmate Parent-child visitation. This should include rescheduling non-emergency services or activities such as dental appointments, group recreational activities, and counseling sessions when there are scheduling conflicts with parent/child visits.

Joseph Semidei
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Family
and Children Services