



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

ADMINISTRATION

3200 East Highway 34
c/o 500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070
Phone: (605) 773-3478
Fax: (605) 773-3194

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CONTACT: Michael Winder, SD DOC (605) 773-3478

Inmate phone system contract to allow lower rates

Pierre, S.D. – The South Dakota Department of Corrections (DOC) has renewed an agreement with FSH Communications LLC, a company that provides telephone service to state prison inmates.

The DOC negotiated lower rates for collect and debit calls, which will save money for inmates and their families and friends. Most rates for calls will decrease from six to nine percent, depending on the type of call made by the inmates. The lower rates for the inmate initiated phone calls went into effect March 10, 2008.

“The reduced rates we were able to negotiate will have a positive impact on the inmates’ ability to maintain contact with their loved ones while they are in prison,” said Corrections Secretary Tim Reisch.

Inmates can access telephones at the facility they are housed at to make calls, subject to the rules of that facility. Inmates can make either collect or debit calls from prison to a limited number of family members and friends.

As part of the two-year agreement, FSH also upgraded their equipment at all DOC facilities to provide greater reliability, accountability and security.