

Office of Governor Ron DeSantis
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis,

I am writing on behalf of WriteAPrisoner.com, an organization that:

- helps inmates find pen-pals for correspondence,
- posts free online résumés for inmates being released to help them secure employment,
- places living assistance requests for soon-to-be-released inmates,
- provides free educational materials to prisons through its Books Behind Bars program,
- publishes a free Self-Help Series for inmates to further their education, repair credit, parent from prison and much more while corresponding with their pen-pals.

In fact, WriteAPrisoner.com is the largest and most proactive organization of its kind, working to reduce recidivism for more than ten years. I encourage you to visit their website to learn about all of the programs they run: writeaprisoner.com. They are a friend to inmates, inmates' families, and society at large for their work in promoting positive relationships and offering real tools for inmates to rebuild their lives and become productive members of society upon release.

Your Department of Corrections is refusing to deliver mail sent by WriteAPrisoner.com, and I am asking that you please look into this matter and intervene so that WriteAPrisoner.com's mail is allowed to pass freely through the DOC. There is no logical rationale for opposing inmates seeking positive correspondence, jobs, etc. Is it not in society's best interests to promote positive interactions such as correspondence with pen-pals? Research has repeatedly shown that inmates who maintain contact with the outside world: 1) reduce their likelihood to recidivate, 2) decrease their likelihood of continued substance abuse, 3) increase their chances of securing employment, 4) experience increased morale, 5) avoid conflicts with other inmates during incarceration, 6) seek education and literacy, and 7) reduce the frequency of anxiety and depression during incarceration. Supporting data are available here: writeaprisoner.com/why-writeaprisoner.

The DOC claims that fraud, or the potential for fraud, justifies this ban, but little to no evidence is ever offered to support this claim. Additionally, WriteAPrisoner.com takes many precautions, which are listed here: writeaprisoner.com/precautionary-measures-taken-writeaprisonercom. Even if fraud allegations were true, the DOC has the ability to charge inmates and punish them as they would for any type of criminal activity. However, these cases are extremely rare and simply do not reflect the general content of inmates' correspondence with the free world. Punishing all because of a few does not serve the greater good.

I ask that your office intervene and allow mail from WriteAPrisoner.com to enter the DOC's mailrooms without hindrance. I also request that this letter be entered into the official record in opposition of this rule. Please be assured that I will continue to stay apprised on this situation via WriteAPrisoner.com. I appreciate that your administration is committed to reducing crime and recidivism, and I believe that WriteAPrisoner.com stands as a partner and ally for the DOC in achieving that goal.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to your prompt response regarding this serious matter.

Respectfully,

Office of the Governor
Statehouse
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2797

Dear Governor Holcomb,

I am writing on behalf of WriteAPrisoner.com, an organization that:

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Respectfully,

Governor Mike Parson
Office of the Governor
P. O. Box 720
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Governor Parson,

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