



*Inmate  
Legal  
Association, Inc.*



New Jersey State Prison, Second and Cass Streets, P.O. Box 861, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0861

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New Jersey State Prison  
P.O. Box 861  
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August 14, 2023

Terry Schuster, Ombudsman  
Office of the Corrections Ombudsperson  
P.O. Box 855  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

**RE: TECHNOLOGY REVIEW COMMITTEE  
REQUEST TO PERMIT INMATE OWNERSHIP AND POSSESSION OF LAPTOP COMPUTER**

Dear Mr. Schuster:

On behalf of the Inmate Legal Association, Inc. (ILA) paralegals and its members incarcerated in this facility, I write to inquire about permitting the population of this facility to move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century by permitting the inmate population to own and possess a laptop computer. I have been continuously incarcerated at this facility since June 1997. I have gone from using a Smith Corona Office-2000 electric typewriter to a Brother 5500-DS word processor with a proprietary 1.44 disc drive. My machine has been non-functioning since 2019 and no one has the parts necessary to repair it and ever since 1995 Brother International and Smith Corona, the makers of word processors, discontinued their production of these devices and parts.

I am more than aware of the Department's security concerns when it comes to laptops. However, I believe the policy that nearly every county jail uses can be adapted to fit the heightened security and concerns of New Jersey State Prison.

Additionally, the overwhelming success of JPAY, Inc.'s services proves inmates can responsibly own electronic devices of this nature. The economic impact of inmate ownership of laptop cannot be overlooked and it would benefit inmates based on the fact that almost every public defenders' office provides discovery and transcripts on thumb drives. My trial generated more than 6,000 pages of material. This was greatly magnified over the course of my 27 years of incarceration. Not to forget that cell searches would be easier on both officers and inmates!

On behalf of the Inmate legal Association, Inc. I, would greatly appreciate the opportunity to submit to you a comprehensive proposal to permit inmate ownership of a laptop computer and related peripherals.

We would strongly suggest digital fingerprinting all electronic devices and micro-identification printer technology. We feel our insight can assist you in formulating a wide-ranging policy cumulating with a **"you abuse, you lose"** warning.

The introduction of tablets has been, for a lack of a better word, a god-send to the inmate population. We believe laptops would have an even greater impact on the goal of productive rehabilitation.

We thank you for your consideration and look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Stacey Faulcon

**CC:** Ms. Victoria Kuhn, Commissioner  
Dr. Darcella Sessomes,, Assistant Commissioner  
Ms. N. Washington, Staff Liaison, NJSP  
ILA file