

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION  
815**

**INMATE MARRIAGES AND DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS**

**Supersedes:** AR 815 (04/08/11); and AR 815 (Temporary, 06/15/15)  
**Effective Date:** 1/14/16

**AUTHORITY**

NRS 209.131  
NRS 122.020

**RESPONSIBILITY**

1. The Warden/Facility Manager is responsible for ensuring any inmate is allowed to be married in accordance with this regulation.
2. The Chaplains are responsible for reviewing and coordinating all inmates' requests for marriage.
3. All inmates are responsible for complying with this regulation.

**815.01 INMATE MARRIAGES**

1. All inmates requesting to be married must submit their request in writing to the Chaplain.
2. Both parties must be able to demonstrate they are legally free to marry by producing divorce decrees or death certificates, where applicable.
3. Both parties must meet with the Chaplain or other designated person and be informed of the inmate's crime and the length of sentence.
4. The Chaplain or other designated person shall coordinate the staff necessary to perform the ceremony.
5. The Warden/Facility Manager may take whatever steps are necessary to ensure the security of the institution.
6. All marriages will be performed at the institution/facility in accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes.

- A. A Department Chaplain may perform the marriage at no cost to the inmate or others for this service.
  - B. The marriage must be performed by a person licensed or authorized to perform marriages within the State of Nevada.
  - C. A marriage license must be purchased in advance of the ceremony.
  - D. The inmate shall pay for additional expenses such as special custody coverage or transportation, etc in advance.
    - (1) A brass slip will be signed for the amount, which will be debited against the inmate's account or payment may be received from a third party.
    - (2) Failure to sign a brass slip or receipt of third payment constitutes refusal to marry by the inmate.
7. The inmate involved in the marriage ceremony will be allowed to exchange wedding bands with the other party.
- A. After the ceremony, the wedding band must be registered on the inmate's property card.
  - B. The value of the inmate's wedding band may not exceed fifty dollars (\$50.00).
  - C. The inmate's wedding bands may not contain any stones or jewels.
8. The inmate may have one outside witness who is an approved visitor or one appropriately classified inmate housed at the same institution/facility.
- A. No inmate witnesses are allowed at Ely State Prison.
9. The outside party may have one outside visitor who does not have to be an approved visitor with the approval of the Warden/designee.
10. Marriage under authority of this regulation does not represent automatic approval of visitors for the married parties.
11. If children are present they must be related to one of the parties and verified in advance.
12. Inmates with proper marriage licenses will be allowed to marry other inmates; however, due to safety and security concerns they should not be housed in the same institution.
13. The Department will regulate the time and circumstances under which the marriage ceremony takes place.
14. The Department will charge the inmates or accept from a third party all costs it incurs in facilitating a marriage between inmates.

- A. These costs will be calculated in advance.
  - B. These costs must be paid for in advance.
15. Security concerns may require placing reasonable restrictions on the marriage ceremony.

**815.02 DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS**

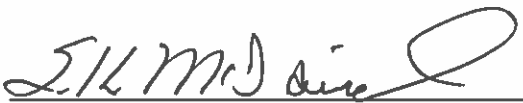
- 1. Incarcerated inmates will not be allowed to enter into domestic partnerships.
- 2. Persons who have domestic partnerships prior to incarceration will be managed in the same manner as persons who were married prior to incarceration.
- 3. Domestic Partners should not be housed at the same institution.

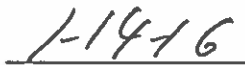
**APPLICABILITY**

- 1. This regulation requires an Operational Procedure at each institution.
- 2. This regulation does not require an audit.

**REFERENCES**

ACA Standards 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, 4-4500; ACA Standards 2008 Supplement 4-4500-1

  
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Director

  
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Date