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		SPECIAL SERVICES UNIT – NDCS CENTRAL OFFICE: INTERSTATE AGREEMENT on DETAINERS	

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SUMMARY of REVISION/REVIEW

Annual review with no revisions to policy.

APPROVED:



Scott R. Frakes, Director
Nebraska Department of Correctional Services

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PURPOSE

The Interstate Agreement on Detainers was designed to provide inmates and prosecutors a method of clearing untried indictments, information and complaints.

Inmate's Request: Allows an inmate the opportunity to clear or resolve the charges pending in other jurisdictions. This lets the inmate prepare for minimum custody, community programming, and work release prior to parole or discharge.

Prosecutor's Request: Alleviates prosecutors having to ensure an Executive Agreement between Governors in order to clear charges prior to an inmate's parole or discharge. Cases that would normally become old and not prosecutable because of long prison sentences could be expedited.

GENERAL

Nebraska became signatory to the Interstate Agreement on Detainers in 1963; the text of same may be found under Nebraska State Statute Section 29-759.

Under Nebraska State Statute 29-764, the Governor is authorized to appoint a person to the position of Agreement on Detainers Administrator, who, along with other officers in other states, may formulate rules and regulations to carry out more effectively the terms of the Agreement on Detainers.

PROCEDURE

- I. Upon receipt of a detainer from a party state involving an untried indictment, information, or complaint, the following steps should be taken in accordance with the rules and regulations set forth in the Interstate Agreement on Detainers.
 - A. Staff will inform the inmate of the detainer and serve Agreement on Detainers (IAD) Form I (Notice of Untried Indictments, Information, or Complaints and of Right to Request Disposition) (Attachment A) and Agreement on Detainers Form II (Notice of Untried Indictment, Information or Complaint and Right to Request Disposition). (Attachment B)
 - B. Staff will inform the inmate that he/she or the prosecutor may request disposition of charges under the Interstate Agreement on Detainers.
 - C. When a prosecutor makes a request for temporary custody, the inmate should be informed that he/she may oppose this request by notifying the Governor in writing that he/she objects to transfer to the requesting state.
 - D. The Governor has 30 days to review the objection to the transfer to the requesting state.
 - E. The inmate should be informed that he/she has the right to file a Writ of Habeas Corpus in District Court requesting a pre-transfer hearing prior to being removed to the demanding state. The inmate may, however, go before a court of record and waive extradition to the demanding state.

Note: Rights given to an inmate regarding a prosecutor's request were brought about because of Cuyler vs. Adams, 449 U. S. 433 (1981).

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II. INMATE’S REQUEST

- A. If the inmate intends to make a request for disposition of charges, the prosecutor and court having jurisdiction must receive this request by certified mail, return receipt requested. Upon receipt of the registered request, a prosecutor has 180 days to bring the inmate to trial on the charges specified, dismiss them or request a continuance from the court. If the inmate makes a request for disposition, he/she voluntarily waives extradition to the receiving state, including that he/she must be returned to that state to serve any sentence imposed. When serving a detainer, staff will advise the inmate that he/she will temporarily be in the custody of the receiving state, and that he/she will be returned upon completion of the court proceedings. The inmate should be instructed that if he/she wants to make a request for disposition of charges under the IAD, he/she should sign IAD Form I and IAD Form II. If the inmate refuses to sign IAD Form II when served, the inmate can later write to the IAD Agreement Administrator, Special Services Unit, P.O. Box 94661, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4661 and indicate that he/she is now ready to do so. IAD Form I and Form II will be prepared and served to the inmate for signature.

Once the inmate signs Form II indicating his/her intent to request final disposition, the Special Services Unit will prepare a trial request including: Cover letter, Certificate of Inmate Status Form III (Attachment C); and Offer to Deliver Temporary Custody Form IV (Attachment D) for proper signatures and disposition.

Note: The forms and cover letter that are distributed to the prosecutor and the court in the receiving state must be sent certified mail, return receipt requested.

- B. Once the prosecutor of the receiving state has received the request, he/she will make the decision as to whether to return the inmate for trial, dismiss the Complaint, Information, or Indictment, or request a continuance from the court. If the prosecutor proceeds with charges, he/she will forward to the institution, Agreement Administrator of the sending state, and inmate, Interstate Agreement on Detainers Form VII (Prosecutor’s Acceptance of Temporary Custody Offered in Connection with a Prisoner’s Request for Disposition of a Detainer) (Attachment G) showing his/her intention to return the inmate for trial.

Prior to the inmate’s transfer to the receiving state, the prosecutor should complete the Interstate Agreement on Detainers Form VI (Evidence of Agent’s Authority to Act for Receiving State) (Attachment F) and forward all copies of the same to his/her state’s Agreement Administrator. The Agreement Administrator in the receiving state should then complete and distribute IAD Form VI accordingly.

Department inmates shall be released only to an appointed agent who is a certified law enforcement officer acting in his/her official agency capacity. The use of private transportation companies is prohibited. The agent’s identity will be verified by checking photo identification before releasing the inmate to the agent(s).

- C. When the department mails an inmate’s request for disposition of charges in another state, the request should be made to all jurisdictions having charges on file in that state. All prosecutors in the receiving state who intend to prosecute their cases will use Interstate Agreement on Detainers Form VII (Prosecutor’s Acceptance of Temporary Custody Offered in Connection with a Prisoner’s Request for Disposition of a Detainer). (Attachment G)

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- D. When the inmate is returned from the receiving state, the prosecutor involved should complete and send Interstate Agreement on Detainers Form IX (Prosecutor's Report on Disposition of Charges). (Attachment I)

III. PROSECUTOR'S REQUEST

- A. Upon receipt of Interstate Agreement on Detainers Form V (Request for Temporary Custody), (Attachment E) the inmate should be interviewed and advised that a demand for his/her temporary custody has been made upon the State of Nebraska.

The inmate should be served with Interstate Agreement on Detainers Form II (Inmate's Notice of Place of Imprisonment and Request for Disposition of Indictments, Information or Complaints) (Attachment B) outlining the options open to him/her under the Detainer Act.

1. The inmate may execute Form II, after which the Agreement Administrator will notify the demanding state that the inmate is available to be taken into temporary custody.
2. The inmate has a right to petition the Governor, requesting that the Governor deny custody to the demanding state. Should the inmate desire to exercise this right, he/she should forward a letter to the Governor of Nebraska, State Capitol Building, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509.
3. The inmate has the right to be brought before the court of record for the purpose of being informed of the charges against him/her; that the inmate has a right to legal counsel, and if at that time the inmate states he/she wishes to test the legality of the detainer, the court shall set a time and place for the hearing.

Note: During the Habeas hearing, the court will not inquire into an inmate's guilt or innocence. The court will only consider:

- a. That the information, complaint or indictment substantially charges the person demanded with having committed a crime under the law of the demanding state.
- b. That the documents submitted by the demanding state are in legal form.
- c. That the identity of the inmate has been established by the demanding state.

B. STEPS

1. If the inmate elects to sign IAD Form II, the Special Services Unit will prepare Interstate Agreement on Detainers Form III (Certificate of Inmate Status) (Attachment C) and IAD Form IV (Offer to Deliver Temporary Custody) (Attachment D) along with a cover letter to the prosecutor of the demanding state by certified mail, return receipt requested.

The prosecutor should return Interstate Agreement on Detainers Form VI (Evidence of Agent's Authority to Act for Receiving State). (Attachment H)

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The same procedure will be used for IAD Form VI as previously outlined under Inmate's Request.

When the inmate is returned from the demanding state, the prosecutor involved should complete and return Interstate Agreement on Detainers Form IX (Prosecutor's Report on Disposition of Charges). (Attachment J)

2. If the inmate elects to file a Writ of Habeas Corpus, the prosecutor in the demanding state and the Governor of the sending state should be notified immediately. The prosecutor of the demanding state should be sent a cover letter stating inmate's intention, and Interstate Agreement on Detainers Form III (Certified of Inmates Status) (Attachment C) by certified mail, return receipt requested. The Governor of the sending state should be sent a cover letter with the following attachments, verifying the demanding state's request for temporary custody: court commitments, warrant of arrest, information, or complaints, IAD Form V (Request for Temporary Custody) (Attachment E) and IAD Form III (Certificate of Inmate Status) (Attachment C).

The Nebraska Department of Justice (Attorney General's Office) should arrange to have the inmate brought before the District Court for a pre-transfer hearing prior to his/her removal to the demanding state.

Once the Governor and the court have granted the demanding state's request for temporary custody, Interstate Agreement on Detainers Form IV (Offer to Deliver Temporary Custody) (Attachment D) should be prepared and delivered to the prosecutor of the demanding state, with the following attachments:

- Governor's authorization letter from the sending state
- Court order from the District Court.

Unless previously received, the prosecutor should then send Interstate Agreement on Detainers Form VI (Evidence of Agent's Authority to Act for Receiving State) (Attachment F) and forward the same to his/her state's IAD Agreement Administrator for completion and distribution.

Note: When a prosecutor from a demanding state has made a request for an inmate under Article IV, any other prosecutors having charges in that state should use Interstate Agreement on Detainers Form VIII (Prosecutor's Acceptance of Temporary Custody Offered in Connection with Another Prosecutor's Request for Disposition of a Detainer) (Attachment H). All existing detainees from the demanding state must be disposed of prior to subject's return.

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REFERENCE

- I. Neb. Rev. Stat. 29-759 to 29-765.
NAEO Manual for Interstate Agreement on Detainers, published 1989

- II. ATTACHMENTS:
 - A. Form I: Interstate Agreement on Detainers
 - B. Form II: Interstate Agreement on Detainers
 - C. Form III: Interstate Agreement on Detainers
 - D. Form IV: Interstate Agreement on Detainers
 - E. Form V: Interstate Agreement on Detainers
 - F. Form VI: Interstate Agreement on Detainers
 - G. Form VII: Interstate Agreement on Detainers
 - H. Form VIII: Interstate Agreement on Detainers
 - I. Form IX: Interstate Agreement on Detainers

- III. ACA STANDARDS - None noted.