

## South Western Communications, Inc. Detention Electronics Group

## Video Visitation Service Bulletin August 2011

Video Visitation systems offer several advantages over the traditional through the glass phone visitation method. A computer administration station permits connection between a public visitor booth and any inmate booth. A timer may be set to automatically control how long the session lasts. An on-screen count-down clock warns when the session nears expiration. Facility staff do not need to move inmates. The public booth may be in the lobby, in an isolated area or even in a separate building. This allows more control over areas open to public access and eliminates the problem of contraband entering the facility. The inmate booth may be located in a dayroom, allowing the inmate to participate without movement, freeing facility staff to perform other duties, improving officer safety and saving money.

With modern visitation systems, professional visits may be allowed over the internet from an attorney office or other off-site location, and remote arraignments may be held between a court facility and an inmate booth, either in a dayroom, or a designated private room. The visitation and jail management systems may be interfaced to share information. The admin station may view booth video and monitor audio before and during any session. Any session may be interrupted or cancelled. All visits may be recorded as permitted by jurisdiction.

Officer, Inmate or visitor kiosk, and web-based scheduling are possible. Approved visitor list enforcement is easy to implement. Portable booths are useful in segregation areas and limit need for extra booth hardware. Other options allow visitors to schedule fee-based visits online and could help offset the costs for the video visitation system. Systems are easily expanded as needs grow for either on-site or remote capabilities.

Prior bulletins on various subjects may be reviewed at <a href="http://www.swcdec.com/Bulletins.htm">http://www.swcdec.com/Bulletins.htm</a>

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