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| <b>KENTUCKY<br/>CORRECTIONS</b><br>Policies and Procedures                 | Policy Number                   | Total Pages        |
|  | 9.5                             | 2                  |
|  | Date Filed                      | Effective Date     |
|  | June 3, 2005                    | September 20, 2005 |
| References/Authority<br>KRS 196.035, 197.020, 431.220, 431.240,<br>431.250 | Subject<br><br><b>EXECUTION</b> |                    |

## I. AUTHORITY

This directive is issued in accordance with the provisions of KRS 196.035 and 197.020, which authorize the Department of Corrections (Corrections) to adopt rules and regulations necessary for the proper administration of Corrections and the government and discipline of adult correctional facilities; and KRS 431.220, which gives Corrections responsibility for the execution of an inmate sentenced to death.

## II. PURPOSE

To provide a safe, secure and humane way of administering the death penalty.

## III. APPLICABILITY

To all employees of Corrections.

## IV. DEFINITIONS

"Death watch" means the period of time prior to the execution during which final preparations shall be made to carry out the sentence of death.

"Execution team" means a group of screened and specially trained volunteer Corrections staff who direct the activities during the final stages of the death watch and implement the sentence of death.

"Team Leader" means a member of the execution team designated by the Commissioner of Corrections to coordinate the training and preparation and direct the specific activities of the execution team during the final stages of the death watch and execution.

"Warden" means the warden of the Kentucky State Penitentiary.

## V. PROCEDURES

### A. Place of Confinement

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1. Pending the appeal process a male inmate under sentence of death shall be transferred to the Kentucky State Penitentiary and placed in a housing unit designated for an inmate sentenced to death. A female inmate under the sentence of death shall be transferred to the Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women and placed in a housing unit designated for an inmate sentenced to death.
2. No later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the time of execution, an inmate sentenced to death shall be transferred to a special housing unit located at the Kentucky State Penitentiary adjacent to the death chamber.

B. Pre-Execution Procedures

1. Corrections shall identify those who may attend the execution in accordance with KRS 431.250.
2. The Commissioner shall assign, at a minimum, the following staff to assist the Warden at the time of the execution:
  - (a) A representative from the Office of Legal Services to address any legal issues which may result from the execution; and
  - (b) The central office Public Information officer to serve as the official spokesperson for Corrections and to assist penitentiary staff in coordinating media activities during the execution.

C. Responsibilities During Death Watch and Execution

1. The Warden shall be responsible for the care and custody of the condemned, terminating with the release of body to the coroner. Upon consultation with the Warden and the Team Leader, the Commissioner shall designate an individual to serve as executioner. The execution team shall conduct the execution in accordance with their training.
2. The Warden shall be responsible for coordination of all activities preceding the execution. On the day of the execution the Warden shall designate a Deputy Warden to be responsible for the daily operation of the institution until all execution activities conclude.