American Correctional Association

SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGIES THAT ELIMINATE THE ILLICIT USE OF CELL PHONES IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

2009-1

WHEREAS, maintaining public safety and operating a safe correctional facility depend upon the effective implementation of rigorous security measures; and

WHEREAS, controlling and monitoring inmate communications is necessary in order to maintain a secure facility and help ensure inmate and staff safety; and

WHEREAS, the possession and use of cell phones by inmates in a correctional facility constitutes a serious breach of security; and

WHEREAS, cell phones are being illegally smuggled into correctional facilities with greater (RLS) frequency; and

WHEREAS, security measures currently being used have been unsuccessful in preventing inmates from possessing and using cell phones; and

WHEREAS, possessing cell phones gives inmates access to a private line of communication from which they can harass, threaten and intimidate victims and witnesses, engage in unlawful activities, and continue criminal enterprises; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Correctional Association supports the development, testing and legitimate use of technologies and practices to eliminate the illicit use of cell phones in correctional systems, facilities and programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the American Correctional Association supports efforts to block all calls, from contraband cellular devices inside correctional institutions.

This resolution was adopted by the American Correctional Association Delegate Assembly at the Congress of Correction in Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 12, 2009. It was last reviewed and reaffirmed at the 2018 Winter Conference in Orlando, Florida on January 9, 2018.