

KERN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Detentions Bureau Policies and Procedures

TITLE: VOTING

G-0400

EFFECTIVE:	REVIEWED:	REVISED:	UPDATED:
June 30, 1990	04-01-2026	04-02-2007	07-11-2024

APPROVED BY: Detentions Bureau Chief Deputy Cindy Cisneros

REFERENCE: Title 15, Section 1071 C.C.R., Elections Code 2025

POLICY

Incarcerated persons confined to a Detentions Bureau facility may correspond with the election's office in the county of the incarcerated person's permanent residence to register to vote and to apply for an absentee ballot. Incarcerated persons will be allowed to vote by absentee ballot only.

DIRECTIVE # 1

The following provisions shall apply to incarcerated person voting:

- Incarcerated people must mail voter registration forms and absentee ballots like any other personal mail.
- Incarcerated people will not use any Sheriff's facility as their residence address. If they do not have a current address, they must use their last residence address.
- The Incarcerated person Welfare Fund provides postage for indigent incarcerated people. If an indigent incarcerated person wishes to correspond with an election's office, they will use the postage provided to them from the Inmate Welfare Fund. They will not be provided with additional postage for this purpose.

Procedure A. Personnel Duties and Responsibilities

If an incarcerated person tells an officer that they want to register to vote, the officer will advise the incarcerated person of the following:

- The incarcerated person must send a letter to the elections office of their home county requesting an "Affidavit of Registration" form to be mailed to the incarcerated person at the appropriate facility.

- Upon receipt of the "Affidavit of Registration" form, the incarcerated person must complete the form and return it to the election office of their home county.

If an incarcerated person tells an officer that they want an absentee ballot, the officer will advise the incarcerated person of the following:

- The incarcerated person must send a letter to the elections office of their home county requesting an absentee ballot. The letter must include the incarcerated person's registered address and the location to which the incarcerated person wants the absentee ballot sent.
- Upon receipt of the absentee ballot, the incarcerated person may complete and mail the ballot back to the election office of their home county.