NOROLK INMATE COUNCIL

MCI-Norfolk

Proposal to Introduce

Notebook Computers to

Massachusetts Department of Correction (DOC)

December 2024

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Introduction:

The Norfolk Inmate Council, (Norfolk Resident Council), (NIC/NRC) respectfully requests the MA-DOC to being to introduce Notebook Computers to the prisoner population. The model being suggested is currently offered from Justice Tech Solutions (JTS). See attached. JTS sample units (jeremy@justicetechsolutions.com). These models have WIFI capabilities with various range of memory. Notebooks such as this will being to address several factors within the MA-DOC. 1) Reduction on paper, 2) Additional enhanced educational opportunities, 3) Reduction of property. However the DOC will need to begin to embrace technology across all areas. The NRC respectfully offers the following.

Benefits:

1) Reduction on paper items: This can reduce the amount of paper products across the DOC and in prisoner cells. Instead of photocopying mail, institutions would email it to the prisoner. Instead of sending out paper memos they can be sent on the Notebooks, with a signature verification similar to ones used in medical. Those who have a lack of knowledge in technology rolling video screens can be installed in common areas to display active memos or on current institutional TV systems. Tech knowledgeable Prisoners can be paid in every unit to assist others to become knowlegable in uses and benefits of Notebooks in their own housing units. See proposed pilot program below. School work can all be provided on the tablets at the prisoners email account, account activity and good time updates. Program handouts can all be eliminated via emailing materials to those in the group. Program spaces can be equipped with video screens to reduce or eliminate paper handouts. Notebooks will need to be allowed in all program/religious and educational spaces throughout facilities.

Legal materials: transcripts can all be stored on a disc or memory devise or within hardrive memory. This will eliminate legal storage and allow items to transfer to other facilities thus reducing the burden on property to pack and search legal documents. Legal Briefs can be emailed to the courts rather than send them by mail (Electronic Filing: http://www.lexisnexis.com/clients/macourts) Creating a secure attorney email system will enable lawyers to email briefs and other documents to clients for review and redaction. Email systems for privileged communications can be determined in the same manner as current privileged mail and phone numbers. This will allow for reduced security staff work and quicker and more efficient contact with legal and privileged group. Without delays for tiring reviews by staff.

Providing expanded and faster email services will allow family and friends to communicate with prisoners rather than snail mail (US Mail). Thus reducing staff time in mail rooms for scanning mail. This would also benefit the prisoner by increasing the page limit. Also creating a system modeled after the Federal Bureau of Prisons will greatly increase email delivery time and reduce snail mail.

Prisoners could be limited to a 6 inch file type folder for all paper in prisoner cells. Thus creating more effective searches and less disruption to prisoners property.

2) Additional enhanced educational opportunities. Providing Notebooks to prisoners will allow for the expanded education in software programing. Such as; Microsoft; Office, Word, Excel, Powerpoint, etc.

Additional features could be linked to completing certain programs and training. Such as if you complete Microsoft Office you can then access a video game, history education programs or video or streaming service also expanding good time opportunities. This would then operate in a incentive based expansion of leisure time uses. The Brave Unit already utilized similar enhancements.

Exemption: For those with no or little knowledge of technology should be offered in person and virtual classrooms to help them become computer literate and knowledgeable. This is positive for reentry and success upon release. This group must be addressed in order to have them capable to engage the Notebook system in all aspects. Language barriers and systems must also be addressed in the roll out. Exemptions must allow for persons to retain current legal documents and appliances until such time as they become proficient in the technology.

3) Reduction of Property: This Notebook or a similar model if equipped properly will reduce property. TV viewing can be enabled on this thus providing all prisoners with TV's and educational devises. A picture in picture system can be enabled to allow for a prisoner to have a sports game on while typing an email, letter or accessing other programing. Typewriters will no longer be required. This will also reduce the market for stolen TV's since everyone will have their own issued Notebook, TV enabled, reducing altercations and conflict. Providing enough storage space and back up storage in a cloud type system will reduce paper work and create more efficient searches. This will also reduce the carbon footprint of paper products. Books, magazines etc can all be placed on this system to include news letters thus further reducing paper items in cells. Many prisoners would prefer there books and items to be digital. This can be accomplished by creating scanning centers in each Unit to input as many items as prisoners would like. Of course religious books (Bibles, Koran's etc) still would be maintained in paper book form. However reducing the allowable paper items in each cell to 1/2 cubic foot would in essence reduce 9000 cubic feet of paper in prisoner cells across the DOC. Not to account for a vast reduction of legal storage. When a prisoner is transferred from one facility to the next the Notebook travels with them thus having no time separated from legal materials, documents. The Notebook will take up the space of a TV.

There will still need to be printers and scanners in each housing unit for snail mail (legal documents and mail being sent out). These items can be maintained by the Unit prisoner Tech.

Staff messages can all be emailed with means for prisoner responses to staff messaging. Currently Orijin & Keefe offer their own versions of many of these suggestioned means of staff communications.

Grievance systems (medical / general) and sick slips can all be move to digital system formats.

No auto delete time for data but maintain in system in case of need for litigation or parole purposes. All items must be allowed to be retrieved and copied or printed for legal or advocacy sharing. Public records request, Prisoners 6 part folder requests can all be provided digitally.

Parole and commutation packets preparation and emailing to lawyers and public supporters (no page limits). This will help the prisoner better prepare and submit such filings.

Internal appointment list exchanged to email prisoners with appointments (ring tone, and visual display notifications) to maintain accountability and improve communication.

Americans with Disability (ADA) also needs to be taken into consideration with screen size, volume controls and the ability to enhance size of font and on screen use.

Pictures maintained in digital formate. If possessed already scan into system. All photos moving forward would be required to be in a digital format. (exceptions for sentimental photos to be maintained). This would eliminate the trading of photos between prisoners.

DOC must maintain atleast 10% of institutional prisoner count for back up in the event of malfunctions. Thus having reduced time of not having Notebooks and access. Further the reduction in paper is a positive step in reduction of fire hazards. Prisoners at MCI-Norfolk have learned how valuable maintaining information in the cloud would have been in our recent fire.

Video Visitation and phone calls to increase connection and family bonding. The utilization of a system modeled after the Federal Bureau of Prisons efficient in delievery will greatly increase email use and enhance family contact. This system works via a word recognition to flag emails and prisoners who are under suspicion. Increasing access / contact with family, friends and support networks as well is a great tool for improving family bonds. Children's school work can be shared and maintained to encourage the prisoners own personal development and behavioral growth.

This all will require upgrades to WIFI and Broadband services at all facilities. Also to allow all items on the Notebooks to be cut and pasted to other files and emails, thus reducing the need for US (snail, paper) mail.

Each prisoner should be trained in trouble shooting techniques's and how to transfer all data and materials from one Notebook to another in case of malfunction. This should be one of the first courses offered in the Notebook system to assure less complications, and greater self sufficiency.

Property Orders utilize Keefe Edge type service as Keefe already has available in many other prison systems, should be activated in MA-DOC.

One devise for all tablet type use on the Notebook. Educational, program, personal & legal will in itself provide a valuable education tool in self guided learning and benefits in preparation for reentry.

Replace radios & tablet music function with a portable, work out friendly Music Player (MP) AM-FM radio devise. This must be work out friendly in all weather

conditions and compact as the current AM/FM pocket radios. Additionally if these are rechargeable this would eliminate batteries in all facilities. A plus for security purposes.

All DOC forms should be made available on Notebooks for submission and responses to include filing appeals. These must be allowed to be emailed to legal advocates and counsel or printed out when required. This will also reduce or eliminate in house mail (paper).

Program Applications, Special Event Packages, Program Notifications, should be available for use and submission via email. All DOC policy's, regulations and operating procedures should also be available as well in this system.

Virtual classrooms should be available for all programs, and educational opportunities. This will allow for class rooms to expand students to many times over. Such as one in class student to one virtual student. The educator or program staff will be responsible for rotating in person time or more when educator or facilitator feels a student is not meeting required goals.

Involving prisoner peer support network as assistants for programs and education will be a valuable tool in this effort and allow for additional assistance when needed. A pilot program involving coordinators / leadership of: Self Improvement Groups, programs and educational activities should be rolled out to have prisoners knowledgeable throughout the prison to allow for a smoother roll out. This will allow for an organic mentorship of peer support when the system is fully active.

Prisoner involved stakeholder (Self Improvement, NIC/NRC, Program facilitators etc) should all be provided with Notebooks to help trouble shoot oversights which may be present.

System should have no time limited access as some current systems. As some prisoners work and are active during the day and would work on their devises during night time hours.

Summary:

The need to reduce paper in an effort to curb K2 presence in facilities is an ongoing issue and moving the DOC forward on technology will help this effort. Allowing prisoners greater access and use of technology on a daily basis will better equip prisoners for society and successful reentry. Reducing property in this manner makes searches more effective and efficent for security staff and other staff searches. WIFI connection allows remote access by investigators for misuse of devises and invesigations. Increasing access / contact with family, friends and support networks as well is a great tool for maintaining and increasing family bonding. A Notebook is a tools which will empower the DOC to increase security, education, programing, family and community bonding and create additional successful reentry opportunties for prisoners and reduce staff stress and fatigue.

On behalf of the NIC/NRC and population this proposal is offerred.

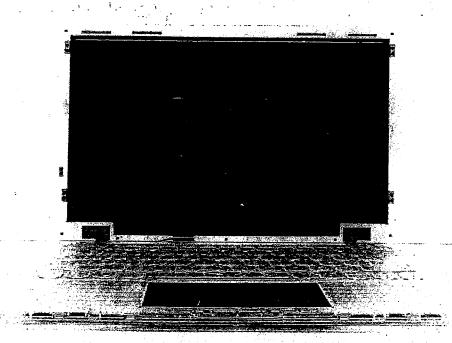
Respectfully Submitted,

William J. Duclos Norfolk Resident Council MCI-Norfolk

cc: file

SECUREBOOK 6

HTTPS://JUSTICETECHSOLUTIONS.COM



THE NOTEBOOK

A SECURE NOTEBOOK WITH USB,

CAMERA, AND NETWORKING

REMOVED, AN UNPOWERED

PROPRIETARY DOCKING STATION

PORT, AND AN INTERNAL BATTERY.

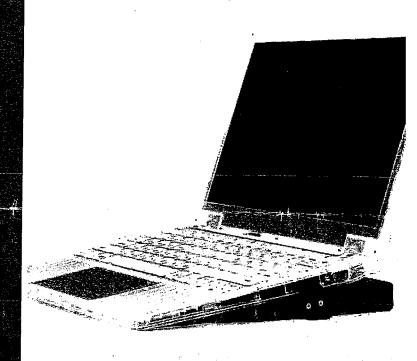
EASY TO USE, IMPOSSIBLE TO ABUSE.

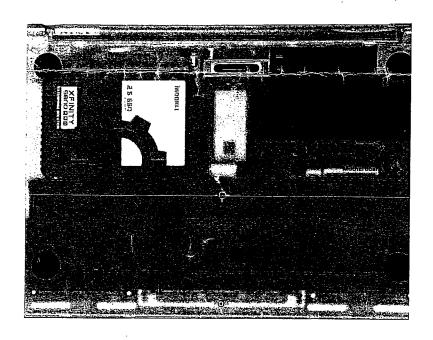
KEY FACTS

- TRANSPARENT CHASSIS
- NO METAL IN KEYBOARD
- OS FLEXIBILITY
- · NO PORTS, ONLY UNIQUE DOCK
- . 2.5" SSD STORAGE DRIVE
- EXPANDED BIOS CONTROLS
- THOUSANDS DEPLOYED TO DATE

SECUREBOOK 6 PRICING:

\$549 - 256GB \$599 - 256GB WIFL \$599 - 512GB \$649 - 512GB WIFL





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