



Office of the Sheriff

Michael D. Andrews, Sheriff

April 17, 2015

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing you in regards to the current security measures which are in place, and the likely way ahead. In March we implemented a modified walking schedule to reduce the number of detainees in the common area of the Pods at any one time. I know that some people have characterized these measures as punishment, but that was not their intent. These measures were implemented for the safety of all concerned due to an increase in assaults, both upon other detainees and Detention Officers, as well as the discovery of improvised weapons within the facility.

While this modified schedule has not affected visitation, and we have made every effort to continue access to programs, such as STARR, religious services, educational opportunities, and the like, I do appreciate that you would like to have more time out of your cell than is currently allowed. We hope to see that happen as well, and since the modified schedule was first established, we have increased the number of cells open at any one time to permit additional persons to be out at any one time. It is our intention to continue that trend and provide greater access to the common area so long as it can be accomplished safely. But safety, both for you and our staff, remains the first consideration.

So the opportunity for greater common area access lies with you. If you can treat others with respect, keep the Detention Facility a safe environment, and help reinforce that standard with the other detainees, you will enjoy greater privileges. If not, we will have to continue to limit access in order to maintain the safety of the facility. I hope that you will choose to contribute to making the Detention Facility a safe environment.

The ball is in your court.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Andrews
Sheriff of Durham County

