



State of Missouri
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
Ad Excelleum Conamur – “We Strive Towards Excellence”

The Missouri Department of Corrections understands the incarceration of a loved one is difficult for family and friends. Incarceration often brings a number of questions about the department’s operation and the reception and orientation process. To obtain answers to some of those questions, the department offers the “Family and Friends Institutional Handbook,” which is available on the department’s website at doc.mo.gov. The department also hosts Family Orientation Meetings at its diagnostic centers for immediate family members or significant others of a first time offender.

Family Orientation Meetings are held at least once each month at our diagnostic centers. These meetings, which last about one hour, provide general information about visiting, mail, sending money, offender classification, and a general summary of all aspects of incarceration. Staff members will answer the most commonly asked questions family members routinely have about confinement in the Missouri Department of Corrections and provide materials to take home. Afterwards, family members may be able to receive a brief, non-contact visit with a loved one if they are an immediate family member.

If family members wish to attend a Family Orientation Meeting to learn more about the department’s rules and practices, they may contact the facility where a loved one is housed during the first weeks of incarceration. Staff members there will conduct general screening, and if approved, will give family members information about the date and time of the next meeting, make a reservation at that meeting, and provide family members with directions to the facility. Children should not attend.

Here is a list of the department’s diagnostic centers, the addresses and telephone numbers:

- **Eastern Reception, Diagnostic & Correctional Center**
2727 Highway K, Bonne Terre, MO 63628 Phone: 573-358-5516
- **Fulton Reception & Diagnostic Center**
P.O. Box 190, Route O, Fulton, MO 65251 Phone: 573-592-4040
- **Women’s Eastern Reception, Diagnostic & Correctional Center**
1101 East Highway 54, Vandalia, MO 63382 Phone: 573-594-6686
- **Western Reception, Diagnostic & Correctional Center**
3401 Faraon Street, St. Joseph, MO 64506 Phone: (816) 387-2158

The department encourages family members to accept this invitation to attend a Family Orientation Meeting so that they can learn as much about the department as possible. Doing so can ensure them that they are well informed and able to provide support and guidance to for their incarcerated loved one.