

WHAT EVERY LAWYER  
SHOULD KNOW ABOUT  
CLASSIFICATION OF INMATES  
IN THE  
ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

PRESENTED BY

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INSTITUTIONS, SECURITY LEVELS AND LOCATIONS

The Alabama Department of Corrections maintains 6 different security levels. An inmate's security level is determined through the classification process

The following is a list of institutions, their current security level and address:

MAJOR INSTITUTIONS

**Bibb Correctional Facility**

Level IV  
565 Bibb Lane  
Brent, Al. 35034

**Bullock Correctional Facility**

Level IV  
P.O. Box 5107  
Union Springs, Al. 36089-5107

**(J.O.) Davis Correctional Facility**

Level II  
Fountain 4000  
Atmore, Al. 36503-4000

**Donaldson Correctional Facility**

Level VI  
100 Warrior Lane  
Bessemer, Al. 35023-7299

**Draper Correctional Facility**

Level IV  
P.O. Box 1107  
Elmore, Al. 36025

**Easterling Correctional Facility**

Level IV  
200 Wallace Drive  
Clio, Al. 36017-2615

**Elmore Correctional Facility**

Level II-III  
P.O. Box 8  
Elmore, Al. 36025

**Fountain Correctional Facility**

Level IV  
Fountain 3800  
Atmore, Al. 36503-3800

**Hamilton Aged & Infirm**

Level IV  
223 Sasser Drive  
Hamilton, Al. 35570-1568

**Kilby Correctional Facility**

Level IV  
P.O. Box 150  
Mt. Meigs, Al. 36057

**Red Eagle Honor Farm**

Level II  
1290 Red Eagle Road  
Montgomery, Al. 36110

**Staton Correctional Facility**

Level IV  
P.O. Box 56  
Elmore, Al. 36025

**Tutwiler Annex**

Level II  
8966 US Hwy 231 North  
Wetumpka, Al. 36092

**Farquhar State Cattle Ranch**

Level II, skeleton staff and population  
Greensboro, Al.

**Frank Lee Youth Center**

Changed to Level I/II  
P.O. Box 220410  
Deatsville, Al. 36022

**Holman Correctional Facility**

Level V  
Holman 3700  
Atmore, Al. 36503-3700

**Limestone Correctional Facility**

Level IV  
28779 Nick Davis Road  
Harvest, Al. 35749-7009

**St. Clair Correctional Facility**

Level VI  
1000 St. Clair Road  
Springville, Al. 35146-9790

**Tutwiler Prison for Women**

Level IV-VI  
8966 Us Hwy 231 North  
Wetumpka, Al. 36092

**Ventress Correctional Facility**

Level IV  
P.O. Box 767  
Clayton, Al. 36016-0767

**WORK RELEASE CENTERS (all Level I and Level II)**

**Alexander City**

P.O. Box 160  
Alexander City, Al. 35010

**Birmingham**

1216 North 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
Birmingham, Al. 35234-3196

**Camden**

1780 Hwy 21 North

**Atmore**

9947 Hwy 21 North  
Atmore, Al. 36503

**Bullock**

P.O. Box 192  
Union Springs, Al. 36089

**Childersburg**

P.O. Box 368

Camden, Al. 36726

Childersburg, Al. 35044-0368

**Decatur**

P.O. Box 5279  
Decatur, Al. 35601-1325

**Elba**

P.O. Box 710  
Elba, Al. 36323

**Hamilton**

1826 Bexar Avenue East  
Hamilton, Al. 35570

**Loxley**

P.O. Box 1030  
Loxley, Al. 36551-1030

**Mobile**

P.O. Box 13040  
Eight Mile, Al. 36663-0040

**Montgomery:Pre-Rease TransitionCenter**

P.O. Box 75  
Mt. Meigs, Al. 36057

COMMUNITY WORK CAMPS (all Level I/II)

**Childersburg**

P.O. Box 368  
Childersburg, AL. 35044-0368

**Loxley**

P.O. Box 1030  
Loxley, Al. 36551-1030

CUSTODY DESIGNATIONS

Community – Work release placement

Minimum-out – Level II placement and may be assigned to county or city work crews not supervised by DOC personnel.

Minimum-in – Level II, III or IV placement only.

Medium – Level IV, V or VI placement only

Close – Level IV, V or VI placement. Will be confined to segregation while at Level IV.

Maximum – Level V or VI placement. Will be confined to single cell.

SEGREGATION DESIGNATIONS

Administrative segregation – in single cell due to classification decision. May be based on a variety of reasons but usually involves multiple disciplinarys for violent behavior, chronic mental health concerns and repeated escapes or attempted escapes. Custody may be medium, close or maximum.

Protective custody – in single cell due to documented enemy in that facility or system wide. General rule is to release once the enemy situation no longer exists. Must be at least medium custody, occasionally minimum-in will be approved.

Disciplinary segregation – serving a specified amount of days as sentenced in a disciplinary. Privileges are greatly reduced (no store draw or personal items other than a bible and hygiene products, no telephone privileges). Must be at least

medium custody.

## PROGRAM AVAILABILITY

### A. DRUG TREATMENT

1. 18 Month Therapeutic Community
  - a. Ventress
  - b. St. Clair
  - c. Bibb County
  
2. 6 Month Crime Bill (3 nine week segments- SAP, Criminal Thinking and Behavior, Lifestyle Choices and living Skills)
  - a. Donaldson
  - b. Draper
  - c. Easterling
  - d. Limestone (includes HIV unit)
  - e. Tutwiler
  - f. Ventress
  
3. 8-9 Month Crime Bill
  - a. Bullock
  - b. Bibb County
  
4. 12 Week Dual Diagnosis Program
  - a. Ventress (requires substance abuse & valid DSM diagnosis)
  
5. 8 Week Treatment
  - a. Bullock
  - b. Draper
  - c. Elmore
  - d. J.O. Davis
  - e. Staton
  - d. Tutwiler
  - e. Ventress
  - f. Loxley
  - g. Frank Lee
  - h. Childersburg
  - i. Alexander City
  
6. 16 Week Treatment
  - a. Montgomery Work Release (8 week program as outpatient)
  
7. 28 Day Relapse
  - a. Elmore

B. EDUCATION

1. GED - Offered at all security levels but not at all institutions.
2. Trade Schools
  - a. Donaldson
  - b. Draper
  - c. Fountain
  - d. Limestone
  - e. Staton
  - f. St. Clair
  - g. Tutwiler

C. INDUSTRIES

1. Donaldson
2. Draper
3. Easterling
4. Holman
5. Limestone
6. Staton
7. St. Clair
8. Tutwiler
9. Elmore

D. SELF HELP

1. AA, NA, SEXUAL ADDICTS ANONYMOUS, ETC.

E. MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOPS

1. Anger Management
2. Values Clarification
3. Gender Identity Disorder: individualized treatment plans for identified

inmates.

SECURITY LEVEL ELIGIBILITY

- A. Length of sentence
- B. Parole review dates
- C. Criminal history (actual details of crimes factored in, not simple nomenclature)
- D. Institutional record (good and bad)
- E. Specially restricted categories of inmates
  1. Sex Offenders – looks at details of all offenses, past and present, and can include past juvenile offenses once sentenced as an adult for classification purposes only. Can also use arrests for sexual offenses for which no conviction was received and misdemeanor sex offenses. These will be

designated by a capital “S” at the end of their AIS number.  
(example AIS# 123456 S)

**Only those inmates with a conviction as designated in § 13A-11-200, Code of Ala. 1975, must also comply with the Sex Offender Notification Act.**

2. Restricted Offenders – thought of as heinous offenses or high potential for public danger such as multiple murders of record (nomenclature immaterial), Robbery/Homicide, Killing with explosives or illegal weapon, Killing with torture, Drive by killings, Killing the defenseless (children. Elderly 65 and older and the disabled), Terroristic killing, Killing with mutilation, Contract killing, Killing of one’s parents, Gang related killings (applies to all participants of crime), Killing with aggravated circumstances or overkill, stalking or stalking behavior, felony kidnapping and Execution style killings. Other reprehensible crimes can be considered on a case by case basis. These will be designated by a capital “R” at the end of their AIS number (example AIS #123456 R).
3. All restricted category inmates are limited to Level IV and higher security level facilities. They are ineligible for minimum or community custody for the duration of their incarceration.
4. Prior designation as a restricted offender will result in future designation as a restricted offender upon subsequent incarcerations.
5. Details of crime not occurring in this state may be used to designate someone as a restricted offender for classification purposes.

#### DISCUSSING A PRISON TERM WITH YOUR CLIENT

- A. Things you cannot affect as their attorney – almost everything concerning classification which includes institutional placement, program participation and security level.
- B. Court ordered programs – At present, there is only one program, the 6 month Crime Bill, for which a court order will guarantee placement. **JUDGES** – if your intent is to review or release upon completion of the program, you must set a review date and the DOC recommends 9 month to a year from conviction to allow for program placement, transfer and time for the inmate to complete.

- C. All other programs “ordered” are available or not to inmates based on their classification status and may take many years to get in if an inmate has a long sentence and distant parole review date. Once the Order is signed by the judge, it does not mean immediate placement upon intake with the DOC.

#### POTENTIAL IMPACT OF CLASSIFICATION ON PLEA BARGAINING DECISION MAKING

- A. Clients should be aware that plea bargaining (change in nomenclature or reduced sentence) will not affect classification. Classification is ALWAYS based on the details of the offense(s) on the client’s record (juvenile, misdemeanors, out of state, federal, offenses for which no conviction was received if details are available, prior in state felonies and the current offense).
- B. Any prior classification of the client in the Department of Corrections will be reviewed upon subsequent incarcerations. Once classified as a sex offender or restricted offender, the designation remains.

#### GOOD TIME AND WHO CAN EARN IT

- A. Also known as Correctional Incentive Time. Found in **§ 14-9-41, Code of Ala., 1975**. CIT not available on Class A felonies or sentences for Class Band Class C felonies that exceed 15 years.
- B. For sentences that earn goodtime, the Department figures 2 End of Sentence dates on the Time Sheet. These are the long date and short date. The long date is the entire sentence without the benefit of goodtime. The short date is the earliest possible release date if the inmate moves through all the statutory levels of earning without incident (disciplinary action) and earns all goodtime possible on the sentence.

#### SPLIT SENTENCES

- A. Detailed in **§ 15-18-8, Code of Ala., 1975**.
- B. Prohibited from earning CIT but may be eligible for CIT in the event the sentence is revoked and is not prohibited by § 14-9-41.

- C. Disciplinary action will result in a notification letter (within 5 working days of the approval of the disciplinary or citation) being sent to the sentencing judge, who may initiate a review to determine if revocation of the Split Sentence is warranted prior to the inmate's reaching the probation portion of the sentence. Each disciplinary results in a letter which reminds the judge of the inmates Split Sentence status, the nature of the disciplinary and recaps the inmate's disciplinary history for the judge's consideration.
- D. **§ 15-18-8, Code of Ala., 1975** also details other alternative forms of sentencing allowed by law, including Boot Camp.

RELIGIONS RECOGNIZED BY THE ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

- A. Buddhism
- B. Catholicism
- C. Five Percent Nation of Islam
- D. Jehova's Witness
- E. Judaism
- F. Moorish Science Temple
- G. Nation of Islam
- H. Native American
- I. Protestants
- J. Seventh Day Adventists
- K. Sunni Muslims
- L. Wiccans

NOTE: for each there is a designated list of recognized holidays that may be observed, including those that require some sort of food to be served. There is also a list of approved practices, activities and items for each recognized faith.

COMMON INMATE MISPERCEPTIONS  
(things inmates actually said and probably believed)

1. **I was told I could earn good time.** (usually comes from an inmate with a split sentence, a sentence longer than 15 years or someone convicted of drug trafficking)
2. **I know it is a split but they told me I wouldn't have to do it day for day.**
3. **What do you mean YOA doesn't make it go away.**



- 4. They let me plead to a lesser charge. I wasn't convicted of it, it didn't happen.**
- 5. I'm supposed to go to Ventress because it is the only institution with drug treatment.**
- 6. The judge didn't order it so I don't have to do it.**
- 7. My lawyer told me I would only have to do a third and get parole if I didn't make a "program" first.**
- 8. If I'm ordered to drug treatment or any other program, I'm supposed to go to the head of the line and get priority placement.**
- 9. The Judge said I was going to do my time at (specific) facility.**
- 10. I'm too young to be at (specific) facility.**
- 11. I have to be at the prison closest to my home and family.**