

New York City Department of Correction
Report on Annual Training Regarding
the Treatment of Visitors
February 10, 2022

Pursuant to Local Law 23 of 2019, the Department is required to implement annual training regarding the treatment of visitors for staff who interact regularly with visitors, and issue reports on these trainings. The following report provides an overview of the training and its methodology, descriptions of the training materials used, and the number of staff who received the training.

In June 2021, the Department resumed In-Person Visits after having suspended visits in March 2020. The Department briefly suspended in-person visits again in December 2021 due to the surge in the Omicron variant and resumed in-person visits on February 9, 2022.

Visitor Pat Frisk & Facilitating Successful Visits Training

As of July 2021, all staff members identified as having frequent interactions with visitors have completed both the Visitor Pat Frisk course and the Facilitating Successful Visits course (previously discussed in the 2020 Annual Report). Of the 207 staff members assigned to the Central Visit House, facility Visits, the Central Intelligence Bureau, and the Departmental Canine Unit (all of whom have interaction with staff), 174 staff members completed Visitor Pat-Frisk training and 196 staff members completed the Facilitating Successful Visits course.

In December 2021, the Department initiated development of an 8-hour refresher course that combines the topics and performance objectives covered in both the Visitor Pat Frisk and Facilitating Successful Visits courses, but also includes additional information on working with LGBTQ+ visitors, as well as a practical application refresher of the most commonly used security devices, including the magnetometer and line-scan machines. The Department hopes to finalize this training course and begin training all staff identified as having frequent interactions with visitors by mid-late February 2022.

Non-Ionizing Body Scanner Training

Between June 2021 and September 2021, the Department also facilitated training for staff assigned to search visitors using non-ionizing body scanner security devices. The Non-Ionizing Body Scanner Operator (L3/SafeView Image Analysis) Training is a two-day class that provides an overview of the SafeView hardware, user interface, and the millimeter wave technology used to create the images. After participating in a series of carefully designed lectures and discussions, each student experiences a simulated work environment, analyzing images of male and female models, and locating a variety of objects. Graded practice sessions allow the instructor and students to quantify and evaluate their level of competence. While most of the training is presented in a classroom, the practical portion of the training takes place at a fully operational SafeView system, and upon completing the 2-day training, Operators are certified for two (2) years. There were 79 staff members who completed this two-day training and are currently certified to use the non-ionizing body scanners to perform non-invasive searches on visitors.