




FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE JUSTICE

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 20, 2019
TO: All DJJ Residential Providers
FROM: Garrett Tucker 
Residential Services, Acting Assistant Secretary
SUBJECT: Contraband – Wearable Technology (Smartwatches)

This memorandum prescribes guidance and procedures for smartwatches within all residential programs.

The use and presence of wearable technology devices in the workplace is growing and is projected to increase considerably as new devices and applications are developed. An employer can expect to see more employees wear smartwatches for personal, nonwork-related reasons.

Smartwatches are a wearable computing device usually worn on a user's wrist that offers functionality and capabilities similar to those of a smartphone. Smartwatches are designed to, either on their own or when paired with a smartphone, provide features such as connecting to the internet, running mobile apps, making calls, messaging via text or video, checking caller ID, and location directions.

This memorandum establishes restrictions for smartwatches being worn inside residential programs. This information should be communicated to all employees, volunteers, and subcontractors immediately and at the commencement of employment addressing any questions they may have regarding its scope and enforcement. Smartwatches will be considered contraband as outlined in 63E-7 F.A.C.

Reference Florida Administrative Code 63E-7 – Operations of Residential Programs, 63E-7.107 – Safety and Security, (9) Contraband, (b) Prohibited Items: At no time shall contraband be allowed in the facility as more broadly defined in subsection 63E-7.100(20), F.A.C., which items include: sharps, escape paraphernalia, tobacco products, electronic or vaporless cigarettes, non-facility issued electronic equipment or devices, metals, personal non-facility issued cellular devices, unauthorized currency or coin, and non-facility issued keys. At the discretion of the Facility Administrator, contraband that is not illegal shall be discarded, returned to its original owner, mailed to the youth's home or

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Ron DeSantis, Governor

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stored and returned to the youth upon release. In all instances involving the confiscation of illegal contraband the confiscated item(s) shall be turned over to law enforcement authorities and a criminal report filed.

All DJJ Providers should work to update their current Facility Operating Procedures concerning contraband. An employer should obtain a written acknowledgment signed by employees acknowledging their understanding of, and intent to comply with the policy. Because wearable technology is rapidly changing, an employer should keep up with changes and review the policy to ensure appropriate and lawful use of wearable technology devices in the workplace.