



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

HAROLD W. CLARKE
DIRECTOR

Department of Corrections

P. O. BOX 26963
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23261
(804) 674-3000

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MIM Distributors
P.O.Box 40799
San Francisco, CA 94140

This is in response to your July 29th, 2014 letter to the Publication Review Committee (PRC) regarding your recent knowledge of your disapproved publications in VADOC.

First let me say the PRC reviews each publication mailed from the field on a case by case bases with no prejudice. With that being said, all publications are screened upon arrival at the facility and if found in violation of the policy, is either handled at the facility based on the policy violated and if deemed a publication issue is mailed to PRC for final review.

The style of your publication has been a long issue regarding which policy governs the content and based on that is has been reviewed under both the Correspondence Policy 803.1 and the Publication Policy 803.2. As a result of this, notification may not have been mailed out for the disapproval of the newsletter.

Some of the numbered publication you listed, I have no record for as being reviewed by the PRC. Some I have but do not correspond with the information you have listed in your letter. For example you listed Under Lock & Key issue # 24 & 25 as being disapproved under criteria A for penetration but according to the Master Disapproved list both issues are disapproved under criteria D (for promotion of violence). We do not have Issues # 13 disapproved for Spanish content, which would be a violation of our own policy, as offenders are allowed to have Spanish publications. The Master Disapproved list shows a "Level 1 study Group" being disapproved in May 2014 not April as your letter indicates.

You are stated in your letter that you want the following actions taken:

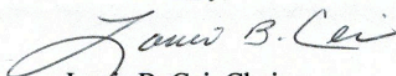
1. An investigation into the above listed publications on the disapproved publications list to determine what materials they contain that justifies this disapproval,
2. Notification of the specific findings of this investigation.
3. Notification of all MIM Distributors rejected mail directly from the prison upon rejection
4. Appeal the censorship of all the above listed publications and letters.

First, PRC will mail a notification letter to your company informing you of the disapproved items, which you will have 15 calendar days to request an independent review of the items. This will need to be addressed in writing to the Deputy Director, Virginia Department of Corrections P.O. Box 26963. No notification is mailed directly from the prison once a publication is flagged. The facility does not make the final decision on any publication unless such publication is already on the disapproved list. Hence, PRC mails all notification out to the publishers, which occurs after the final review.

It is the duty of the Virginia Department of Corrections to maintain the orderly operation of the facility. If any material is considered as dangerous and depicts any indication of violence then they will be reviewed according to the policies and procedures of the department. Also be advised that decisions are based solely on the material present. There are currently 5 approved MIM Theory on the Master list for offenders to purchase.

I trust that this information has been of assistance to you. If you have any question please don't hesitate to contact the Publication Review Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Louis B. Cei". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Louis B, Cei, Chair
Publication Review Committee