



Board of Correction

Six Month Review:

Visit Restrictions, March – August 2016

Since March 2016, the Board of Correction has published a monthly report analyzing DOC and BOC visit restriction data. In limited circumstances, as described in Board of Correction (“BOC” or “the Board”) Minimum Standard 1-09(h), the Department of Correction (“DOC” or “the Department”) may restrict an inmate’s right to visit with a particular visitor and/or right to contact visits with all visitors. The restriction must be in writing and a copy of each restriction must be sent to the person(s) affected by the restriction and to the Board within 24 hours of a determination.

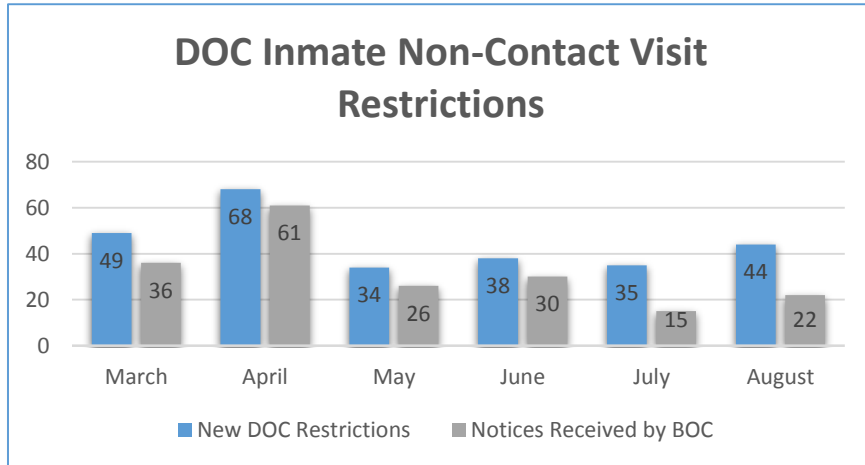
This report reviews trends in visit restrictions from March 2016 through August 2016. This report is divided into four sections: inmate non-contact visit restrictions, visitor restrictions, one-day visit denials, and visit appeals.

The Board’s monthly reports seek to reinforce the Board’s and the Department’s shared commitment to the importance of visits and improving the visiting process, as well as a shared commitment to safety.

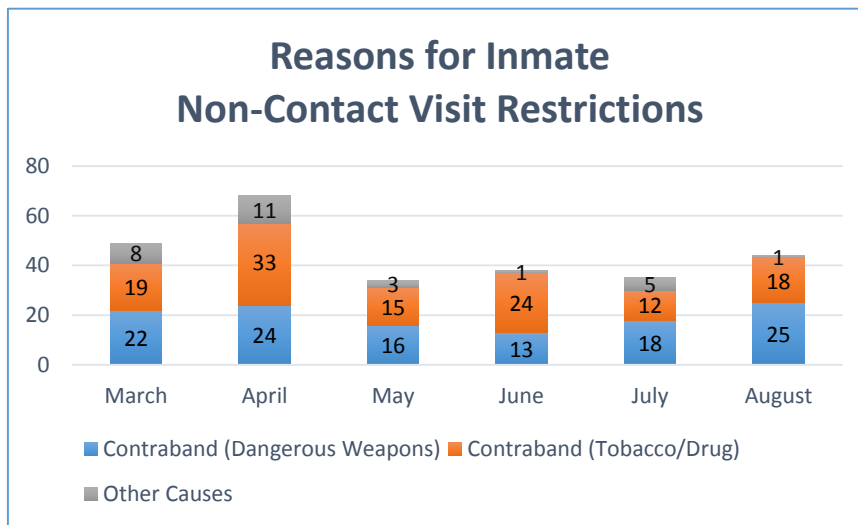
I. Inmate Non-Contact Visit Restrictions

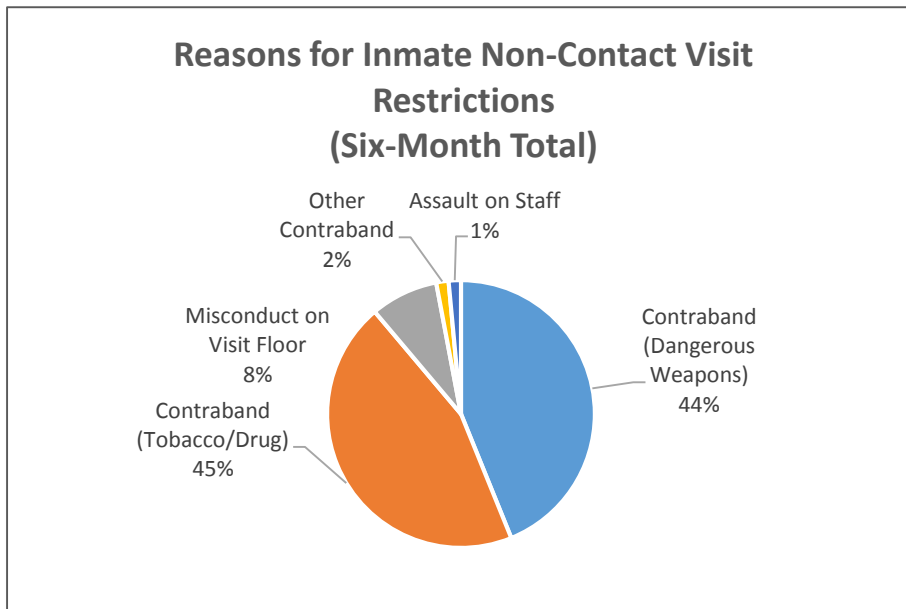
During the six-month period, 268 visit restrictions were issued to inmates. The average number of non-contact visit restrictions issued to inmates each month was 45. The number of non-contact visit restrictions issued to inmates decreased by half from April to May (68 to 34). This figure remained relatively constant until August when there was a slight increase (44 restrictions issued).

From March through June, the Department sent the Board copies of a majority of the visit restrictions it administered (190 of 268). However, in July and August, the Department only sent the Board 43% and 50% of notices administered, respectively.



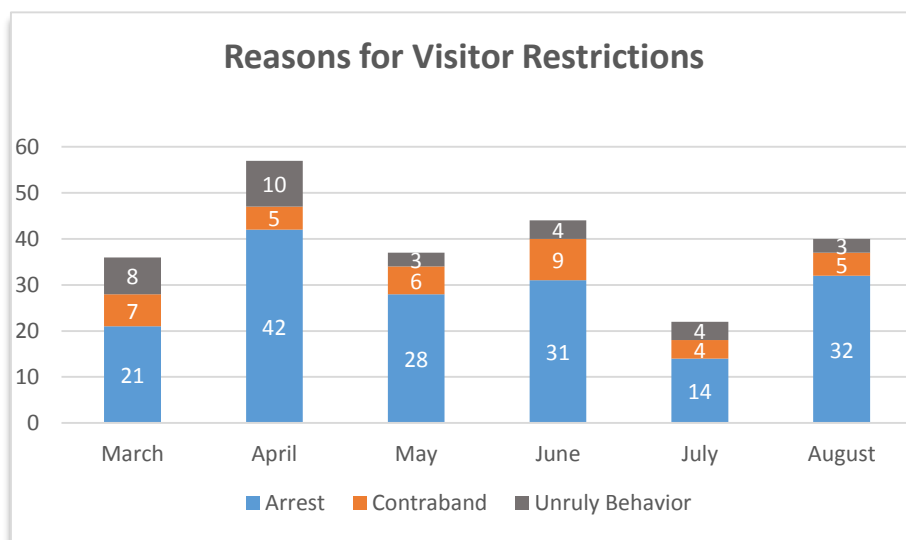
Inmates can be restricted by the Department for a variety of reasons. During this period, tobacco/drug contraband and weapon contraband were the top two reasons for restrictions issued to inmate. 121 restrictions were issued for possession of tobacco/drug contraband while 118 were issued for weapon contraband possession or slashings (45% and 44% of all inmate visit restrictions issued during the period).

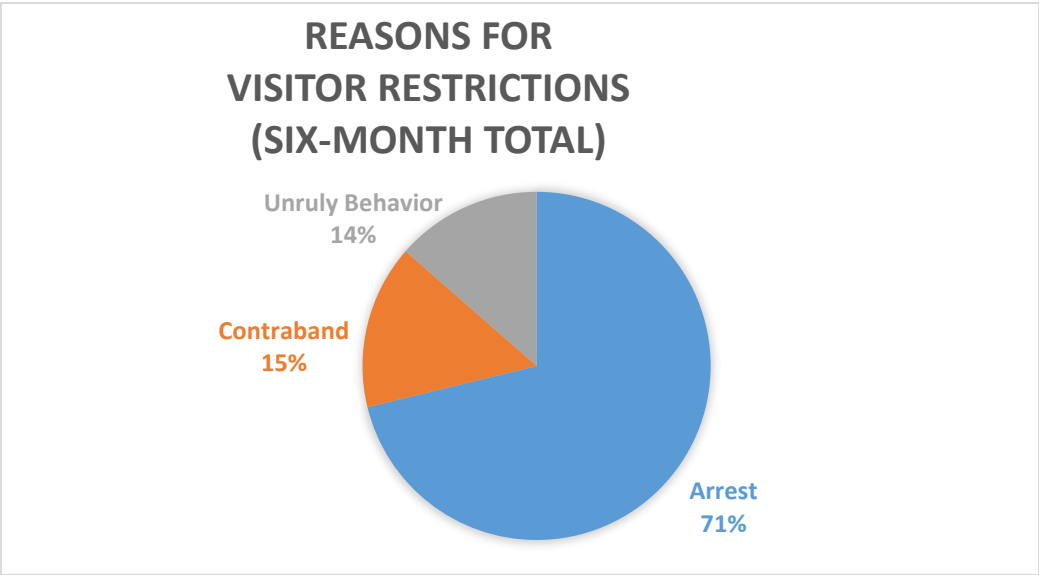




II. Visitor Restrictions

Of the 106,614 visits that occurred between March 1 and August 31 2016, only 0.2% resulted in a visitor receiving a restriction of any length. During the six-month period, the Department sent the Board copies of all 236 restrictions (e.g. restrictions lasting more than one day) administered to visitors. As with the inmate non-contact restrictions, contraband was also the top reason cited by the Department in restricting visitors. There were 168 arrests of visitors during the period and 32 instances where DOC restricted a visitor based on a determination of unruly behavior.





III. Length of Visit Restrictions

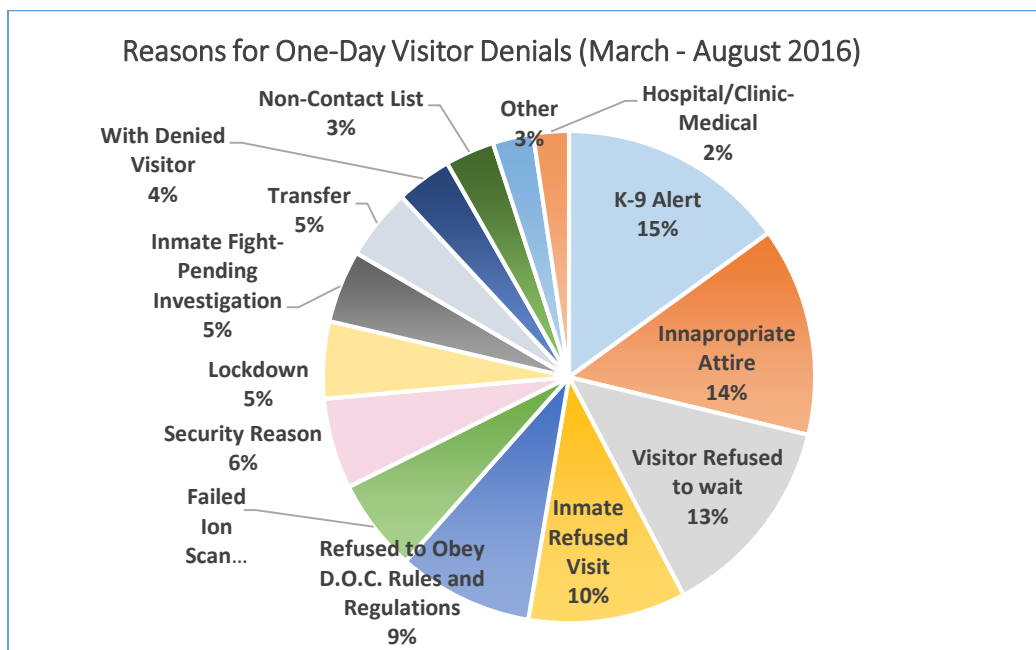
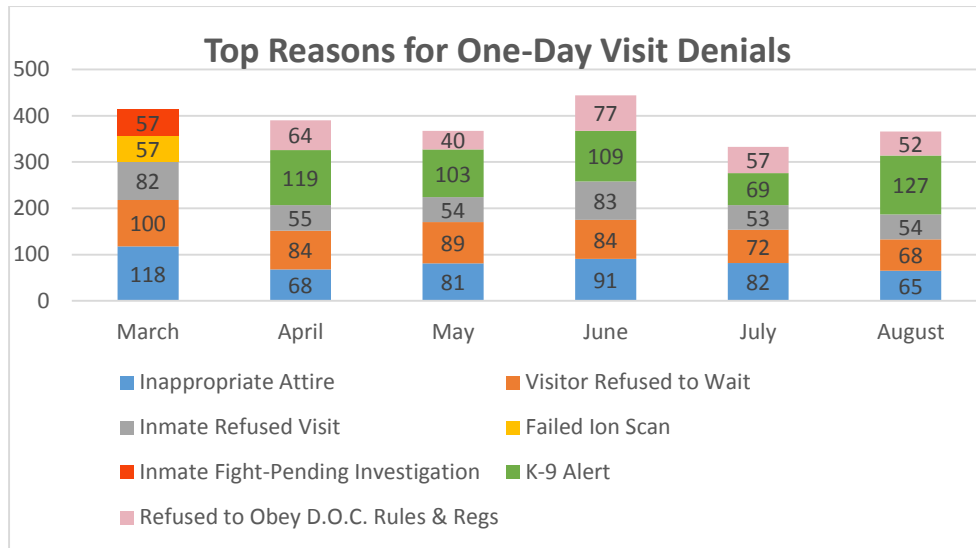
Over the six-month period, just over a third of the visit-related restrictions administered were for 180 days. During the same time, 38% of all inmate visit restrictions administered were for the duration of the inmate’s time in jail.

≤ 91 Days		180 Days		225-274 Days		365-368 Days		Duration
Inmate ¹	Visitor	Inmate	Visitor	Inmate	Visitor	Inmate	Visitor	Inmate
1	17	139	50	1	1	5	168	122

¹ “Inmate” refers to inmate non-contact visit restrictions and “Visitor” refers to visitor restrictions.

IV. One-Day Visit Restrictions

During the past six months, BOC's monthly report also monitored one-day restrictions issued to visitors. From March 1 to August 31, 2016, DOC issued just over 3,681 one-day visit denials.² Most commonly, fifteen percent of these denials (527) resulted from K-9 Alerts. One-day visit denials resulting from K-9 alerts increased by nearly five times (from 26 in March to 127 in August). The next most common reason given for a one-day visit denial was inappropriate attire which was included as the determination in 505 denials. During this period, one-day visit denials resulting from inappropriate attire saw a decrease of approximately 45%.

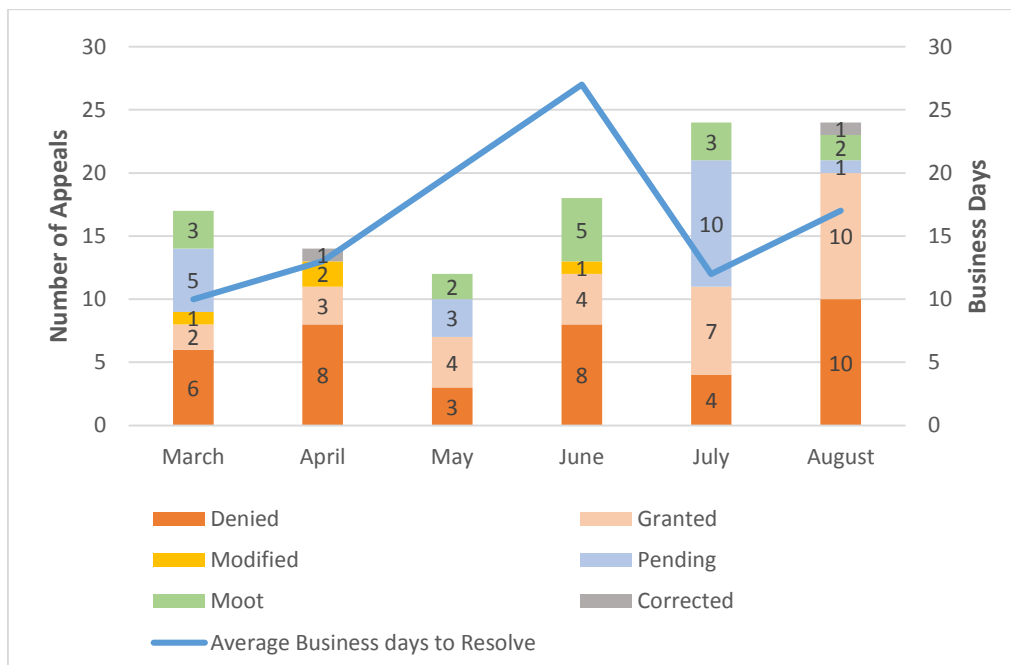


² BOC has determined that some of these would more appropriately be categorized as one day cancellations and moving forward BOC's report will do so.

V. Visit Appeals

Any person (visitor or inmate) who DOC determines should be restricted may appeal that determination to the Board. Between March 1 and August 31, 2016, the Board received a total of 109 visit appeals with an average of 18 received each month. The Board denied 39 and granted 30 of these appeals. During this time, it took the Board an average of 16.5 business days to resolve appeals.³

	March	April	May	June	July	August	Total
Non-Contact Inmate Visit Restrictions	49	68	34	38	35	44	268
Visitor Restrictions	36	57	37	44	22	41	237
Visit Appeals ⁴	17	14	12	18	24	24	109



³ The Board must issue a written decision within five business days of receiving an appeal. Where there exists good cause to extend the time period, the Board can issue a single extension of up to ten business days. BOC Minimum Standard 1-09(i).

⁴ The monthly appeals do not necessarily correspond to the restrictions in each month. For example, the Board may receive an appeal in August for a restriction administered in June.