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eCommDirect
Offender Direct Purchase Program

New eCommDirect purchase program for offenders' family and friends

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice's (TDCJ) Commissary and Trust Fund Department will initiate the eCommDirect purchase program in October, allowing families and friends of offenders to purchase up to \$50 of commissary items for an offender every three months. Traditional money deposits to an offender's trust account may also be made through this program.

The commissary will initially offer its 100 best-selling items for direct purchase, with occasional updates to the product line. Purchase packages include a Sport Pack with nuts, chips, granola bars and other healthy snack foods, and a Hygiene Pack containing shampoo, conditioner, deodorant and other personal items. Other packages could include holiday-themed items.

Eligibility for the eCommDirect purchase program is restricted. Offenders classified as G4 or G5 custody, administrative segregation

levels two or three, and those on commissary restriction are not allowed to receive commissary items directly purchased by family or friends.

The Texas.gov and TDCJ websites will link to eCommDirect when the system is operational, and program information will be posted in unit visitation areas.

"TDCJ has partnered with Texas.gov and we are diligently working on the final stages of the eCommDirect project," said Eric Johnston, Director of TDCJ's Commissary and Trust Fund Department. "We think this is going to be an excellent way for friends and family to treat their loved one to some items from the commissary. We receive a substantial number of phone calls every day inquiring about the program. The response has been very favorable and we are looking forward to providing this service for the offenders' families." ●