

CHAPTER 31  
CIVIL COMMITMENT UNIT FOR SEXUAL OFFENDERS

Chapter rescission date pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.7: 11/1/31

**441—31.1(229A) Definitions.**

*“Contraband”* means weapons; ammunition; tobacco; alcohol; drugs; money; altered authorized property; mood-altering plant materials or chemicals; obscene materials as defined in Iowa Code section 728.1(5); explosives; materials that can be used in the manufacture of explosives; or materials advocating disruption of or injury to patients, employees, programs, or physical facilities. *“Contraband”* includes anything that is illegal to possess under federal or state law and materials that are used in the production of drugs or alcohol or used in conjunction with the taking of illicit drugs. *“Contraband”* also includes anything determined to be banned from individual possession by published facility rules.

*“Facility”* means the civil commitment unit for sexual offenders (CCUSO).

*“Grievance”* means a written complaint by or on behalf of a patient that involves a rights or rule violation or unfairness to the patient.

*“Guardian”* means the person other than a parent of a child who has been appointed by the court to have custody of the person of the patient as provided under Iowa Code section 232.2(26) or 633.3(22).

*“Institutional superintendent”* means the person appointed as the administrator of CCUSO.

*“Patient”* means a person who has been determined to be a sexually violent predator and civilly committed to CCUSO under Iowa Code chapter 229A.

[ARC 0592D, IAB 9/16/26, effective 11/1/26]

**441—31.2(229A) Visitation.** CCUSO will maintain policies and procedures for visitation for patients.

[ARC 0592D, IAB 9/16/26, effective 11/1/26]

**441—31.3(229A) Grievances.** CCUSO will maintain policies and procedures for patients to file a grievance. A patient’s family or guardian may file a grievance on the patient’s behalf.

[ARC 0592D, IAB 9/16/26, effective 11/1/26]

**441—31.4(229A) Photographing and recording patients.** CCUSO will utilize video surveillance for security and investigations. Photographing and video and audio recording of patients for any other purpose are subject to CCUSO’s policies and procedures for prior authorization.

[ARC 0592D, IAB 9/16/26, effective 11/1/26]

**441—31.5(229A) Public media.** Photographs and video and audio recordings by public media inside the facility and of patients will be permitted only with the prior authorization of the institutional superintendent and of the patient or the patient’s guardian.

**31.5(1)** For the security or confidentiality of other patients, the institutional superintendent may limit the scope of what is photographed or recorded.

**31.5(2)** Public media representatives authorized to take photographs or recordings shall make every effort to preserve the inherent dignity of the patient and to preclude the exploitation or embarrassment of the patient.

[ARC 0592D, IAB 9/16/26, effective 11/1/26]

**441—31.6(229A) Communication with patients.**

**31.6(1)** *Incoming telephone calls.* CCUSO does not allow patients to receive incoming telephone calls.

**31.6(2)** *Outgoing telephone calls.* CCUSO will maintain policies and procedures for patients to make outgoing telephone calls.

**31.6(3)** *Attorney contacts.* A patient’s attorney shall have the right to visit or have telephone contact with the patient at any reasonable time. The patient shall have the right to call the individual’s attorney

during normal business hours and at other times with the consent of the attorney. The patient or the attorney shall be responsible for any costs associated with the call.

**31.6(4) Interviews.** Interviews of a patient by the news media or other outside persons or groups shall be permitted only with the prior consent of the patient or the patient's guardian. Requests for interviews shall be made to the institutional superintendent.

**31.6(5) Mail and packages.** CCUSO will maintain policies and procedures for incoming and outgoing mail, including a policy that correspondence is not permitted between a patient and a patient's victim, a registered sex offender, or another patient residing at CCUSO. Should mail or packages be rejected by the facility for any reason, such as containing contraband, being a security risk, or being counter-therapeutic, notice will be provided to the sender and the recipient via the CCUSO form Notice of Rejection of Mail within two business days.

[ARC 0592D, IAB 9/16/26, effective 11/1/26]

**441—31.7(229A) Building and grounds.** The facility's building and grounds are not available for general public use.

[ARC 0592D, IAB 9/16/26, effective 11/1/26]

**441—31.8(229A) Cost of care.** The facility will seek to recover the full cost or a portion of the cost of care from the patient or another responsible person. The cost of the patient's care will be determined for each fiscal year included in the length of stay using the average per diem cost multiplied by the total number of days of care.

**31.8(1) Social security benefits.** The facility will seek recovery from the patient when the patient receives a benefit pursuant to the Social Security Act as amended to August 1, 2026. In such case, the patient will be allowed to retain for personal use an amount equal to the personal allowance amount established by the Social Security Administration.

**31.8(2) Other income.** The facility will seek recovery from the patient when the patient has other income; a trust fund; individually owned real estate, stocks, or bonds; an individually owned savings account, checking account, or certificate of deposit; an individual retirement account; or proceeds from the disposal of real estate or other property.

**31.8(3) Other person legally liable.** The facility will seek recovery from a person who is legally liable for the support of the patient up to the amount of the person's legal liability. The facility will seek recovery from a person who is bound by contract to support the patient up to the amount of the contract. A person legally liable to support the patient does not include a political subdivision.

[ARC 0592D, IAB 9/16/26, effective 11/1/26]

These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code section 229A.15B.

[Filed ARC 9646B (Notice ARC 9481B, IAB 5/4/11), IAB 8/10/11, effective 10/1/11]

[Filed ARC 6275C (Notice ARC 6153C, IAB 1/26/22), IAB 4/6/22, effective 6/1/22]

[Filed ARC 0592D (Notice ARC 0410D, IAB 7/8/26), IAB 9/16/26, effective 11/1/26]