



American Jail Association

Code of Ethics for Jail Professionals

As a professional employed in a detention and correctional capacity, I swear (or affirm) to be a responsible citizen and credit to my community, State, and Nation at all times. I will abstain from behavior that might bring disrepute to my agency, my family, my community, or my colleagues. I will maintain a standard of personal and professional conduct that is beyond reproach, and I will constantly strive to set the example of a professional who performs their duties in accordance with the law and the policies, procedures, and regulations of my agency.

On the job, I commit to:

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| KEEP | the facility secure to safeguard my community and protect the lives of staff, incarcerated individuals, and visitors. |
| WORK | with every individual firmly, fairly, and equitably, without regard to rank, status, or background. |
| MAINTAIN | professional composure and objective judgment when confronted with stressful situations, danger, or chaos. |
| REPORT | accurately and promptly to the proper authorities all matters requiring official attention and strictly maintain confidentiality regarding restricted information in accordance with the law and agency rules. |
| MANAGE | and supervise incarcerated individuals in an impartial, safe, and respectful manner. |
| MAINTAIN | strict professional boundaries at all times, refraining from undue personal involvement in the lives of incarcerated individuals or their families. |
| TREAT | all visitors to the facility with courtesy and respect, while actively ensuring their compliance with facility security regulations. |
| PURSUE | continuous education and training opportunities designed to enhance my expertise and operational competency. |
| COMMUNICATE | across all mediums—including verbal, written, and digital platforms—in a manner that upholds the dignity and integrity of my agency and the corrections profession. |
| CONTRIBUTE | to a rehabilitative environment that encourages incarcerated individuals to engage in constructive programs and personal growth. |

SUPPORT the advancement of the corrections profession through ethical conduct, peer leadership, and a steadfast commitment to progress within an enlightened criminal justice system.

Sunset Provision

BE IT RESOLVED that this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption and shall remain in full force and effect for a period of five (5) years, after which it shall automatically expire on May 16, 2031, unless it is formally reaffirmed, revised, or amended by the Board of Directors prior to that date.

ADOPTED this 16th day of May 2026