American Jail Association Resolution

Literacy

WHEREAS, numerous studies have demonstrated that the literacy rate of offenders is significantly lower than the population at large, and

WHEREAS, literacy is a necessary skill to both getting and keeping a good job, and

WHEREAS, employment has consistently demonstrated a link to the reduction of criminal recidivism, and

WHEREAS, the education of all its citizens is a fundamental precept on which the United States of America was founded;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the American Jail Association support the development and operation of literacy programs in this Nation’s jails to ensure that illiterates may avail themselves of this necessary skill.

And be it further resolved that the American Jail Association support programs, which commit necessary resources toward teaching inmates basic reading and writing skills through various methods.

Adopted by the American Jail Association Board of Directors on April 30, 1990.
Revised on May 19, 1993.
Re-affirmed May 3, 2008, by the AJA Board of Directors in Sacramento, California.