



**Prison Services:** Shura Council will provide the following services to Muslim inmates.

### **Addressing Inmate concerns to ...**

- Wardens and Associate Wardens
- Chaplains, Priests, Rabbis,
- Health and Medical Professionals
- Inmate Advocacy Organizations
- Legislators

### **Halal Food Issues ...**

- Secure halal food for Muslim inmates as a norm and not an exception
- Maintain the integrity of Halal diet once it is established
- Halal food items for sale in the prison commissary

### **Prayer Services, Religious Holidays and Work Days ...**

- Convening regular Juma (Friday) prayers
- Ensure that Muslim inmates are excused during Juma (Friday) prayers
- Islamic Educational Programs
- Ramadan Program – Meals before dawn and meal at sunset to break fast
- Advocate for Muslim inmates to wear Kufi, own prayer beads, prayer rugs
- No work on Eid al Fitr and Eid al Adha

### **Prison Services ...**

- Make sure appropriate Quran translations and Islamic material[s] are in the commissary
- Make sure holy books are not desecrated when confiscated
- Islamic sensitivity training to custodial staff
- Assist inmates to recover their religious items during and/or after transfer
- Fight bogus and/or illegal incident reports and transfers



- Help inmates retrieve wrongly confiscated property and legal pleadings
- Rectify retaliation from the authorities when inmates file grievances/complaints
- Provide written documentation to parole boards on behalf of inmates
- Lobby against cancellation of Muslim services in order to accommodate other religious groups
- Monitor and resolve problems with institution mail-rooms (mail blocking, destroying of mail and non-delivery)
- Lobby officials regarding adverse conditions of confinement
- Lobby for inmates to participate in work release programs
- Monitor paper trails to make sure that prison officials pay timely attention to inmate concerns

### **Religious Legal Issues ...**

- Lobby to combat Islamophobia at prisons, including the conduct of staff members, racist inmates, guards and other officials
- Investigate and report Islamophobic officers
- Fight for Muslim inmates' rights when they are harassed for being Muslim
- Combat bogus incident reports against Muslim inmates
- Report inmate and officer threats against Muslim inmates
- Secure religious furloughs during Muslim holidays
- Continue dialog with the CDC and DOJ regarding [mis]treatment of Muslim inmates
- Ensure that PenPal exchange are allowed into prisons
- Maintain contact with Halfway Houses on behalf of Muslim inmates rights
- Make sure Muslim holidays are included in institutional calendars
- Make sure that Muslim volunteers are treated appropriately
- Request religious transfers
- Review religious policies
- Address problems related to Chapel set up and availability for Muslim inmates

### **Medical and Legal Issues ...**

- Contact medical departments with regard to inadequate inmate medical care
- Rectify incidents of inadequate medical assistance
- Review medical files
- Request medical transfers



- Assist inmates with legal counsel
- Liaise with ICE agents and submit letters of support to inmates facing deportation

### **Administrative Issues ...**

- Provide spiritual support and comfort to inmates and their families
- Respond to letters
- Make call sand write letters to confirm inmates' authentic religious affiliation
- Help family members in locating their loved ones in the prison system
- Request job changes to accommodate and/or improve religious, medical or retaliation incidents
- Help inmates follow proper procedures for the filing of inmate requests, grievances, administrative remedies and appeals
- Liaise with attorneys representing inmates in litigation
- Write letters to parole board to help inmates pending release
- Write letters to thank and appreciate authorities for accommodating Muslim inmate

### **Post Release Assistance ...**

- Maintain communication to help and encourage new lifestyle options
- Offer community services to former inmates on probation
- Help newly released inmates find employment
- Train newly released inmates with new life skills