



U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of the Deputy Attorney General

The Deputy Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

August 16, 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF PRISONS

FROM: THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL *Lin Muro 8-16-21*

SUBJECT: Inmate Financial Accounts

The Bureau of Prisons has long maintained accounts that hold inmate funds in trust for the duration of an inmate's period of incarceration. In administering this program, the Bureau must take appropriate steps to prevent inmates from using such accounts to engage in unlawful activity or to avoid obligations like paying court-ordered restitution to victims. To build on efforts the Bureau is already undertaking, I am directing it – in consultation with appropriate subject-matter experts – to implement, as promptly as possible, reforms to its current policies and procedures that would strengthen appropriate monitoring and reporting, consistent with applicable law. These steps shall include issuing guidance to the field on monitoring inmate accounts, improving coordination with law-enforcement partners on investigating and taking appropriate action against suspicious activity, identifying funds that should be encumbered to meet financial obligations, partnering with other Department components and federal agencies to ensure that such funds are used to help meet those obligations, and taking all other appropriate steps to reduce opportunities for abuse.