

# **Local Jail Communications 2025 Legislative Report**



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This report can be provided in another format upon request.

## **2024 LEGISLATIVE REPORT ON JAIL COMMUNICATIONS**

### **I. Background**

Minnesota Statutes, section [241.253](#), requires the Department of Corrections (DOC) to compile county and regional jail communications data into a single report and submit the report to the legislative committees with jurisdiction over criminal justice policy by March 21 of each year.

The statute also instructs each county and regional correctional facility in the state, including a jail, juvenile detention center, workhouse, or lockup, to report to the commissioner of corrections on their communications contracts for incarcerated people by February 28 of each year. The report must include:

- (1) the total number of phone calls, phone call minutes, video visits, and e-messages initiated or received by incarcerated people in such facilities during the preceding calendar year;
- (2) the total amount of revenue generated by vendors at each facility in the preceding calendar year;
- (3) the total amount of commissions earned by each county and regional correctional facility, including a jail, juvenile detention center, workhouse, or lockup, during the preceding calendar year; and
- (4) how the commissions were spent.

Subd. “b” defines “commission” as any form of:

- (1) monetary payment,
- (2) in-kind payment requirement,
- (3) gift,
- (4) exchange of services or goods,
- (5) fee, or
- (6) technology allowance.

### **II. Method**

The DOC issued and distributed a form to each county and regional correctional facility within the state via email, which included jails, juvenile detention centers, workhouses, and lockups. Facilities were instructed to complete the form by providing the statutorily required information, ensuring compliance with the relevant laws and regulations. To ensure timely submission, the DOC also sent a reminder email to all facilities, highlighting the impending due date for form completion.

### **III. Licensed County Jail Facilities**

103 county and regional jails, lockups, and workhouses reported their 2025 communications data to the DOC by March 1, 2026. 9 facilities did not report their information before the deadline.

Data for each facility has been compiled by the DOC Inspection and Enforcement Unit and is attached to this report as Appendix A.

The DOC also requested facilities to submit their communications contracts, which the agency has retained and can provide to the legislature upon request.