



The State of South Carolina selects Global Tel*Link Corporation as Inmate Telephone System and Communications Services Provider for the South Carolina Department of Corrections
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Columbia, SC –The State of South Carolina announces that it has awarded Global Tel*Link Corporation (GTL), the leading provider of inmate communications services, a new contract as the State’s inmate telephone system and communications services provider. In addition to the new state-of- the-art inmate phone system, GTL will provide banking and finance software upgrades. The integration of the systems will provide feature-rich investigative tools for the Department of Corrections specifically designed to protect the public from unwanted inmate phone calls and enhance the safety of the employees and inmates. GTL will also introduce a new affordable and simplified rate structure that requires no State budget allocations or imposition of burden on South Carolina tax payers.

GTL was selected over its competitors for its industry-leading inmate calling and investigative system and several communications solutions to provide additional services to both inmates and families including:

- Secure Electronic Messaging: Permits inmate families and friends to register for a secure, online service for exchanging electronic messages with inmates. Electronic messages will be delivered much faster than US mail, and at a much lower cost.
- Canteen Order by Kiosk: Permits inmates to order canteen goods through a secure kiosk, reducing the manpower needed to manually process orders.
- Inmate Banking System access by Kiosk: Permits inmates to access their trust fund balances and transaction details, giving them instant access to banking information and reducing the manpower required to manually process inquiries.
- New Rate Structure: Calls to anywhere in the US will be billed at a single flat rate for 15 minutes, with a discount applied for pre-paid calls:

Collect call of up to 15 minutes: \$1.53

Pre-Paid call of up to 15 minutes: \$1.29

About the South Carolina Department of Corrections

The original correctional system in South Carolina was established in 1866 when the South Carolina Legislature passed an act that created the first state-level prison for felons housed in county facilities and created a new state agency; the South Carolina Department of Corrections. Today, the Department of Corrections is still a state agency, reporting directly to the Governor. The Department of Corrections currently has almost 6,000 employees, 23,000 inmates and operates 28 institutions.

About Global Tel*Link Corporation

GTL has been successfully providing inmate telephone systems throughout the United States since 1989, providing exceptional telecommunications service to correctional facilities. As the nation's largest inmate communications company, GTL provides service to 35 of the State Departments of Corrections and processes over 2,100,000 calls per day. A recognized leader in providing comprehensive, innovative technical solutions and responsive customer service, GTL's sole focus is the specialized needs of the corrections industry. GTL is headquartered in Mobile, AL, with executive offices in Reston, VA. For more information please visit GTL's web site at www.gtl.net.

The South Carolina Department of Corrections and GTL project that installation of the new inmate phone systems will begin Tuesday, August 30th and will be completed by November 15th . For more information, please visit <http://www.doc.sc.gov/family/TelephoneCalls.jsp>