

MARIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
CUSTODY DIVISION POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

CHAPTER 4 - HOUSING
CUS - 4 - 11

DATE: 3-29-13
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RELIGIOUS/VEGETARIAN DIETS

POLICY

Religious and vegetarian meals shall be made available to qualifying inmates housed in the Marin County Jail. Accommodations for religious and vegetarian meals will be reviewed and approved, in the case of a religious diet, by the jail's Prisoner Services Chaplain, or in the case of a vegetarian diet, by the Jail's Operations Lieutenant.

DEFINITIONS

RELIGIOUS AND VEGITARIAN MEALS are Title 15 compliant lacto-ovo vegetarian meals that may include dairy products, eggs and a soy protein alternative.

RELIGIOUS/VEGETARIAN DIET REQUEST & AGREEMENT FORM is a form completed by an inmate who is asking to be placed on a special diet as a result of his/her religious beliefs or as a result of his/her status as vegetarian.

PROCEDURE

If an inmate indicates they require a religious diet, which is an elective alternative to the standard pork free general diet also provided in the jail for religious reasons, they will be given a Religious/Vegetarian Diet Request & Agreement Form to be completed (see attachment form). The inmate must fill out and submit a completed Religious/Vegetarian Diet Request & Agreement Form to a deputy. The request must state the inmate's religious beliefs and the foods that are prohibited by those beliefs.

Based on the information that is provided in the Religious/Vegetarian Diet Request & Agreement Form, the form will be forwarded to the jail's Prisoner Services Chaplain, who will interview each inmate who has requested a religious diet within a reasonable period of time. The Prisoner Services Chaplain will evaluate whether that inmate has demonstrated a sincere religious belief necessitating the requested religious diet.

It is the responsibility of the inmate to reasonably communicate and assist the jail's Prisoner Services Chaplain in making that dietary determination. As soon as the jail's Prisoner Services Chaplain has made a determination, the chaplain will forward the Religious/Vegetarian Diet Request & Agreement Form to Operations Lieutenant for review and approval.

If an inmate indicates they require a vegetarian diet because they do not eat meat, the inmate will be given the Religious/Vegetarian Diet Request & Agreement Form. The request form will be submitted to a deputy who will then route the form to the Operations Lieutenant for review. If the request for the vegetarian diet is approved, the inmate must abide by the rule set forth on Religious/Vegetarian Diet Request & Agreement Form contract stating he/she will only eat a vegetarian diet. The Operations Lieutenant will complete a Vegetarian Diet Authorization Card (see attached form) and forward it to the Food Services Manager who will ensure the diet is provided.

Whether the religious or vegetarian diet has been approved or denied, a copy of the completed request form will be maintained in the requesting inmate's file. The jail's medical staff will maintain the right to regulate any inmate's diet for specific medical reasons.

If the inmate violates the agreed to dietary restrictions by purchasing contrary food items through commissary or some other means, they may be required to attend a hearing with the jail's Operations Lieutenant. The Operations Lieutenant, and if appropriate, the jail's Prisoner Services Chaplain, will determine whether or not the inmate will continue to receive the Religious/Vegetarian diet. If the diet is terminated, the date and reason for the termination will be noted on the appropriate diet restriction form contained within the inmate's jail file.

RELATED STANDARDS:
Chapter 4, Section 2

DATE REVISED
08-3-94
11-20-12
03-29-13

By order of

DOUG ENDY
BUREAU COMMANDER



Religious/Vegetarian Diet Authorization Form

(This side is to be filled out and completed by the Jail's Staff)

JID: _____ POD: _____ Inmate Name _____

Last

First

MI

- Religious Preference: Orthodox Jew Hindu Buddhist Seventh Day Adventist
 Other (please specify): _____
- Dietary request: Lacto-ovo vegetarian,

Start Date: (if applicable) _____ Time: _____ End Date: (if applicable) _____ Time: _____

Operational Lieutenant:

- 1 Diet is in accordance with an approved religious practice; Approved **NOT** Approved

(If not approved, custody must provide a full justification below)

- 2 Vegetarian diet; Approved OR **NOT** approved

(If not approved, custody must provide a full justification below)

Comments/Justifications _____

Attachments

Printed Name of Operations Lieutenant

Operation Lieutenant's Signature

Date

FOOD SERVICE APPROVALS **Will** Accommodate Request **CANNOT** Accommodate Request
(must provide full justification below)

*FOOD(S) RESTRICTED

*REASON(S) DIET WAS NOT APPROVED

*You must list foods restricted AND recommended substitutes for restricted foods.

Printed Name of Food Service Manager or Supervisor

Date

Distribution: White- Inmate's File; Canary – Food Services Manager, Pink; - Medical File



Religious/Vegetarian Diet Program Request & Agreement

I would like to participate in the (circle only one):

Kosher Diet Program

Vegetarian Diet Program

I understand that in order for me to participate in a Religious Diet Program, foods and preparation practices that are not used for general population meals must be used. Therefore, I agree to the following conditions:

1. I understand that if I voluntarily request to withdraw from the Religious Diet Program, I must do so in writing and I must wait for a period of six months before requesting to be reinstated in the Religious Diet Program. If, after six months, I apply to a different Religious/Vegetarian Diet Program than the one I previously participated in, my request will have to be approved by the Jail Commander, or his or her designee, who oversees the Religious Diet Program.
2. During meals, I will eat and possess on my food tray only those food items served as a part of my Religious/Vegetarian Diet Program.
3. I may not purchase or consume any food items that are not a part of my religious/vegetarian diet. I understand that my commissary purchases may be routinely monitored.
4. I understand that a record will be kept indicating when my religious meals are served.
5. I will restrict my diet to religious/vegetarian foods.
6. I understand that should I violate any of these provisions, I will receive one (1) written warning, but I will be allowed to continue to participate in the Religious/Vegetarian Diet Program. I also understand that the Jail Commander, or his or her designee, who oversees my Religious/Vegetarian Diet Program shall determine whether I violated any of these provisions.
7. I further understand that should I violate any of these provisions a second time, I may be removed from the Religious/Vegetarian Diet Program. I also understand that a Jail Commander, or his or her designee, shall determine whether I violated any of these provisions.
8. The following food items are prohibited due to my religious/vegetarian diet practices:

By my signature below, I acknowledge that I have read and discussed the contents of this agreement with the Marin County Sheriff's Office designated Chaplain that oversees the Religious/Vegetarian Diet Program. I further agree that if permitted to participate in the Religious/Vegetarian Diet Program I will abide by the conditions set forth in the agreement.

Inmate Name & JID (print): _____

Inmate Sign & Date: _____

Chaplain, Sign & Date: _____

Bureau Commander (or designee), Sign & Date: _____

Distribution: White- Inmate's File; Canary – Food Services Manager, Pink; - Medical File