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A New Phone System Comes To Wisconsin

The new Administrator of the Division of Adult Institutions, Makda Fessahaye, announced a new phone system for prisoners. It will go into operation in the work release centers and Oakhill in June and in the other prisons in July.

Under the current system, people who want calls from a prisoner must set up a Securus account where they can list up to 7 numbers. They must pay 12¢ per minute in-state and 18¢ per minute out of state.

Under the new system, prisoners can open their own account and call whomever they want. All calls are 6¢ per minute. I have no idea whether we will have to submit numbers for preapproval or whether we can dial anyone and talk to them if they choose to answer. Regardless, this is a great step forward for Wisconsin prisoners.