



# FACT SHEET

## SANCTION LADDER

# 2019

TIMOTHY C. WARD COMMISSIONER

RICKY MYRICK ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FACILITIES DIVISION



## BACKGROUND

- Offenders who violate the Department of Corrections (DOC) Code of Conduct are subject to disciplinary sanctions
- Sanctions are categorized as Great, High, Moderate and Low

## TYPES OF CHARGES

### VIOLATION OF ANY LAW OF THE UNITED STATES OR GEORGIA

- Great severity

### VIOLATION AGAINST PERSONS

- High – Great severity
- Violations against persons may include:
  - Causing injury or death to another
  - Assault/Fighting
  - Shooting, stabbing (or attempt)
  - Threatening words (spoken or written)/gestures
  - Sexual activity of any kind – including indecent exposure
  - Obstruction
  - Insubordination
  - Bribery

### VIOLATIONS PERTAINING TO THE SECURITY AND THE ORDERLY OPERATION OF THE PRISON

- High – Great severity
- Violations against security and orderly operations may include:
  - Unauthorized meetings
  - Planning or participation in disturbances/riots
  - Escape or aiding escape (or attempt)
  - Failure to follow instructions
  - Setting a fire
  - Being in any restricted area
  - Failure to complete work assignment
  - Being under the influence of drugs or alcohol
  - Obstruction during a search

### VIOLATIONS PERTAINING TO UNAUTHORIZED POSSESSION AND/OR UNAUTHORIZED EXCHANGE OF ITEMS, SUBSTANCES, ETC.

- Low – Great severity
- Violations against unauthorized possession/exchange of items may include:
  - Possession of any item deemed as contraband

### VIOLATIONS PERTAINING TO PROPERTY AND INVOLVING FRAUD OR MISREPRESENTATION

- Moderate – High severity
- Violations against property and involving fraud may include:
  - Giving items to another offender
  - Theft
  - Destruction of state property
  - Lying

### VIOLATIONS PERTAINING TO POLICY AND PROCEDURES

- Moderate – High severity
- Violations against policy and procedure may include:
  - Gambling
  - Violation of U.S. Postal regulations
  - Violation of visitation rules
  - Using cell phone
  - Feigning an injury or illness

### VIOLATIONS PERTAINING TO SAFETY, EQUIPMENT AND PHYSICAL PLANT

- Moderate – High severity
- Violations against safety, equipment and physical plant may include:
  - Failure to comply with safety policy
  - Careless operations of tools
  - Smoking

### VIOLATIONS PERTAINING TO PERSONAL APPEARANCE AND SANITATION

- Low severity
- Violations against personal appearance and sanitation may include:
  - Failure to keep self clean
  - Failure to keep personal area clean
  - Failure to keep hair shaved/cut



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## SANCTIONS

- Determined by the severity level of the violation
- Violation cannot receive a sanction intended for a higher severity level offense

### GREAT SEVERITY OFFENSE SANCTIONS

- 1–30 days isolation
- Referral to Classification Committee for review
- Disciplinary transfer
- Removal from specific programs
- Issue warrant for violations of law
- Prison restrictions up to 90 days including:
  - Store
  - Library
  - Recreation
  - Group activities
  - Non-privileged packages
  - Telephone use
  - Impound personal property up to 90 days
  - Living Quarters
  - Visitation
- If offender is in a Transitional Center, these sanctions may also be used:
  - Removal from program
  - Assigned extra duty up to 90 days
  - Pass restriction/denial
  - Return to Phase I
  - Extend stay in Phase I
  - Community service
  - Increased drug and alcohol testing
  - Temporary return to prison up to 60 days
  - Assignment to extra duty
  - Mandatory assignment to program, counseling or training
  - Increased drug and/or alcohol testing
  - Removal of Media Rights (video visitation and/or electronic email)

### HIGH SEVERITY OFFENSE SANCTIONS

- 1–14 days isolation
- Disciplinary transfer
- Removal from specific programs
- Issue warrant for violations of law
- Prison restrictions up to 60 days (see Great Severity Offense Sanctions for a list)
- Impound personal property up to 60 days
- Change in work assignment
- Extra duty – 2 hours per day up to 60 days
- Restitution
- If offender is in a Transitional Center, these sanctions may also be used:
  - See Great Severity Offense Sanctions for additional sanctions that may be used at a Transitional Center with a 60-day cap instead of a 90-day cap.
- Temporary return to prison up to 30 days
- Assignment to extra duty
- Mandatory assignment to program, counseling or training
- Increased drug and/or alcohol testing
- Removal of Media Rights (video visitation and/or electronic email)
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### MODERATE SEVERITY OFFENSE SANCTIONS

- Removal from specific programs
- Issue warrant for violations of law
- Prison restrictions up to 30 days (see Great Severity Offense Sanctions for a list)
- Impound personal property up to 30 days
- Change in work assignment
- Extra duty – two hours per day up to 30 days
- If offender is in a Transitional Center, these sanctions may also be used:
  - Required counseling
  - Probated pass restriction/denial
  - Extra duty – up to 30 days
  - Civilian clothing restriction
  - Increase in reporting contacts
  - Verbal reprimand
  - Return to Phase I
  - Extend stay in Phase I
  - Community service

### LOW SEVERITY OFFENSE SANCTIONS

- Includes all sanctions listed for Moderate Severity Offense Sanctions with 30 day limit on restrictions