## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MDOC to Visitors: Bringing in Contraband Jeopardizes Inmates' Privileges

JACKSON – Visitors bringing in contraband to state prisons jeopardize inmates' privileges.

Contraband was discovered on a female visitor to the Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman on Saturday, the first weekend for visitation after a lockdown was lifted for inmates at Units 29 and 30. An investigation is under way to determine why the visitor had the contraband. The visitor has not been charged.

Another lockdown at MSP is being considered, if warranted, prison officials said.

"Needless to say, we don't expect visitors to try to smuggle in contraband as soon as we bring inmates off lockdown," Commissioner Marshall Fisher said. "But if they do, expect to see MDOC take the necessary steps to protect its staff and inmates."

Visitation, commissary and telephone privileges are suspended during a lockdown.

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