DEFINITION OF CLASS:
This is front line entry/developmental level correctional work controlling, accounting for and providing guidance to a segment of an offender-resident population. Most contacts are with coworkers, offender-residents, their families, employers and others to exchange routine information about rules, policies, procedures and the like. There is also contact with police officers, probation officers, personnel at the Montgomery County Detention Center (MCDC) and Montgomery County Correctional Facility (MCCF), maintenance and service personnel (County employees and contractors) and others. Most contacts center on the exchange of routine information. However, there is also exchange of non-routine information with contacts concerning serious infractions of rules, transports back to a secure facility, escapes and other significant events. Most contacts are cooperative and intended to facilitate successful integration of offender-residents into the community, but some are confrontational. Direct, one-on-one care giving and assistance are provided to the offender-residents as needed throughout the day or as deemed appropriate, and range from provision of such routine services as urine sample collection, Alco Sensor testing and disbursing monies to detailed questions on and provision of individualized assistance, attention or guidance on work-family, health, substance abuse or other problems they are confronting on a daily basis, guidance on anger management or anti-social behavior, and other services/help.

Initial employment requires an employee to undergo on-the-job and formal classroom training. During this period, employees are given duties of a varying nature and increasing difficulty and responsibility. Ultimately, employees in this class are responsible for the accountability and daily control of a large group (unit) of offender-residents, mainly at the Pre-Release Center (PRC), which is a correctional facility without significant physical control measures. Other employees supervise offender-residents who live at their place of residence and are electronically monitored, or provide support services but also interact daily with offender-residents on a variety of matters. Employees in this class receive instructions or guidance from the supervisor or a higher grade employee as they encounter new problems or non-routine situations. They perform their daily work in accordance with guidelines, using judgment, as much of their work is accomplished after hours without supervisory presence. Most problems are resolved in keeping with established procedures and guidelines, which are extensive and need to be mastered by the employee. The complexity of this class is realized by the nature and level of the employees’ problem solving and decision-making in the dual role they play as a rules enforcer and a guidance provider working with offender-residents who are not restricted by conventional physical barriers, may be restive, unmotivated or otherwise troubled, and for whom adjustment to community life is difficult to achieve. Employees in this class solve problems and make decisions as learners, relying largely on facts, precedents and training as they further develop their knowledge and skills. The major impact of this class of work is realized by the accountability for and control exercised over offender-residents coupled with the direct daily services and guidance provided. Work is evaluated in-progress and upon completion through reports, results and other measures for timely and appropriate control and
services, for effectiveness in guidance of offender-residents, and for working effectively with other contacts.

Employees in this class are continuously exposed to bodily fluids through urine samples and Alco Sensor testing. There is continuing exposure to aggressive, verbally abusive or potentially hostile people in an uncontrolled environment. Good ‘situational awareness’ is required to reduce risk to self. This class involves considerable standing, a good amount of walking, sitting, observing, bending, reaching and finger manipulation to provide service at ‘the desk’, to conduct room inspections, etc. There is some driving required. There is occasional lifting of materials or resident property weighing twenty (20) to fifty (50) pounds.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES: (Illustrative Only)

- Checks for proper authorization for release of offender-residents to the community (work, school, training, counseling, etc.) and effects the releases.
- Administers Alco Sensor test and collects urine samples for drug screening.
- Conducts personal, room, vehicle, and facility searches and offender-resident counts.
- Assigns and inspects facility clean-up assignments.
- Distributes medication per medical staff instructions.
- Disburses and receives offender-resident monies.
- Verifies offender-resident location in community through telephone checks and on-site visits.
- Determines necessity of making formal charges for major infractions (through a 75B) or handling infractions through such other measures as assigning curfew or providing guidance.
- Conducts (75B) adjustment hearings.
- Drives offender-residents to court, medical appointments, MCDC, and other destinations.
- Provides guidance and ‘contract monitoring’ for assigned offender-residents covering such areas as work, family, substance abuse, leisure, health, finances as well as anger management and possible depression.
- Provides crisis intervention for offender-residents by defusing potentially threatening and disruptive concerns of both offender-residents and, as necessary, their family members or other persons present.
- Attends and participates with other employees in weekly meetings to learn more about and discuss therapeutic strategies and, as one’s programmatic knowledge and guidance skills are developed, provides recommendations on individualized treatment plans for selected offender-residents.
- Supervises ‘weekend turn-arounds’, helps with intakes.
- Leads morning meetings.
- Scores psychological tests (MMPI, Tennessee Self-Concept, etc).
- Supervises facility evacuation drills and conducts emergency systems testing.
- Interviews offender-resident’s family and reviews Pre-Release program with them.
- Secures and inventories property belonging to offender-residents whose program participation has been discontinued.
- Maintains and compiles statistics for monthly reports.
- Takes messages for offender-residents from various people, including attorneys, doctors and employers.
- As necessary, helps offender-residents with their reading and writing in job searches and other circumstances.
• Attends and participates in staff training in such areas as CPR, First Aid, and cognitive behavioral treatment skills.
• Testifies in court.
• Files an application for an arrest warrant with the District Court Commissioner when an offender-resident escapes.
• As assigned, staffs the front desk, attends to daily grounds, facility maintenance, equipment and security issues, MSDS logs, and performs related service-support work.
• Performs related duties as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:
• Skill in problem solving to select, organize and logically process relevant information (verbal, numerical or abstract) to solve a problem in the assigned program area(s). This includes the ability to recognize problems and identify relevant information.
• Skill in the exercise of mature judgment to control offenders individually and in groups through the authority of the position of Resident Supervisor and one’s own people skills. This includes being a ‘strong’ observer of people and situations.
• Skill in written communication to understand written information (including facts, instructions, descriptions and ideas) in the form of policies and procedures, instructions, incident reports and the like and to express such information in writing in the form of brief reports, notes and the like so that others will understand.
• Skill in communications to understand verbal information (including facts, instructions, descriptions, and ideas) and to verbally express such information so that others will understand and, in some cases, will comply, or be persuaded. This includes good skill as a listener as well as the ability to bridge some language barriers and to encourage effective oral communication by offender-residents, their family members, etc.
• Interpersonal skills to interact successfully in a customer-service oriented, businesslike manner with the full range of personal contacts.
• Skill in multitasking to attend to a number of inputs and provide an array of services (such as Alco Sensor testing, cash disbursement and guidance) to individuals on demand while maintaining ‘situational awareness.’
• Ability to acquire knowledge of and ability to interpret and apply core principles and generally-accepted standards and approaches of community-based corrections.
• Ability to acquire knowledge of and ability to interpret and apply specific laws and PRRS Division guidelines covering the population that is overseen.
• Ability to develop skill in providing advice and guidance in areas that offender-residents are confronting on a daily basis, such as work-family, health, substance abuse, anger management and anti-social behavior.
• Ability to develop skill in recognizing critical indicators of personal crisis and in selecting and applying basic crisis intervention techniques.
• Willingness to work with offender-residents in a community-based corrections environment.
• Willingness and ability to report to work for emergencies and to meet operational staffing requirements.
MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:
Experience: One (1) year of full-time satisfactory work experience, or successful completion of six months (6) internship training at the Montgomery County Pre-Release Center.
Education: Possession of a Bachelor’s Degree from an accredited college or university.
Equivalency: An equivalent combination of education and experience may be substituted.

LICENSE:
- Possession and maintenance at all times of valid Class "C" (or equivalent) driver’s license from the applicant's state of residence.

PROBATIONARY PERIOD:
Individuals appointed or promoted to a position in this class will be required to serve a probationary period of twelve (12) months, during which time performance will be carefully evaluated. Continuation in this class will be contingent upon successful completion of the probationary period.

MEDICAL EXAM PROTOCOL: Core I Exam with a Urine Drug and Alcohol Screen.

Class Established: February 1988
Revised: February 1989
October 1989
Classification Study: October 1994 (M)
Classification Study: January 2007 (M)
August 2013
(Probationary Period) January 2020
(Probationary Period – Promotional) February 2020
Revised: Medical Protocol per OMS Review: April, 2022