

From: [Corinne Erdahl](#)
To: [Smith, Patrick](#)
Subject: Letter for Prison Issues Board
Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2019 7:19:05 PM

Sept 16th, 2019
Letter for the Sept 24th meeting of the
Prison Issues Board

I'm Corinne Erdahl from the East Helena area. While I visit an inmate (a former neighbor) and have for over 20 years, this letter is not specific to him, but general in nature. A friend, Karen Srenar and I, try to see him as often as our busy schedules allow. We (along with my son Lane, also on his visiting list) were very disappointed to learn of the limited days and the new, online reservation system.

Due to the nature of our lives and coordinating schedules, it's difficult for us to plan our visits too far in advance. When I did get online to attempt to make a reservation, I found the site difficult to navigate. There is absolutely no-doubt that this system will suppress visitor numbers and, naturally, increase the depression levels of inmates in this already fragile, high-risk population. A Th-Sun, four-day opportunity for visits, generates far more opportunity for those trying to carve out the time to make the drive to MSP. There is a price to pay, either way. Unfortunately, the actual 'cost' related to suppressing the visits will come, I suspect, at a much higher price.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Corinne Erdahl

Sent from my iPhone