

**Bridge the Gap Mentoring Program  
Introduction to the Local Jail  
Resource 10**

This resource will start a discussion about the protocol for visiting clients in jail.

- Escort the new lawyer to the local jail(s) and explain the procedures for jailhouse visits.
- Discuss the following details about jailhouse visits:
  - Where do you go when you arrive at the jail?
  - How do you sign in to visit your client?
  - What should you bring with you? (For example, identification, attorney registration card, etc.)
  - What items are prohibited for jailhouse visits?
  - What may you bring to your client?
  - Is there a limit on the length or number of visits to clients?
- Discuss the importance of talking to your criminally-charged client about the facts of his or her case; about keeping him or her informed about the progress of the case and your case development and about those case decisions which your client should expect to make. See Rule 16-104 NMRA.
- Explain to the new lawyer which decisions an attorney should make in criminal cases and which the client has a right to make, and discuss the importance of explaining this distinction to the client from the outset of representation. Discuss how to properly inform your client of the consequences to his or her decisions in the case. See Rule 16-104 NMRA.

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