

**Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing
Caselaw Highlights (PA Reporter through May 23, 2008)**

	DiMauro	642 A.2d 507	5/24/1994	PA Super	Sentence	Partial Confinement	Sentence of partial confinement must commence at correctional or other appropriate institution. Institution implies that confinement is to take place somewhere other than in defendant's home.
	Snyder	560 A.2d 165	6/5/1989	PA Super	Sentence	Partial Confinement	Trial court may grant work release to person who receives minimum sentence of imprisonment for DUI; such work release is not limited to litter collection.
Payne	DOC	871 A.2d 795	4/29/2005	PA	Sentence	Total Confinement	Department of Corrections regulation prohibiting prison inmates from sending or receiving correspondence containing obscene materials was reasonably related to legitimate penological interests and did not violate free speech provision of state constitution; Department had reasonable belief that restrictions on obscene materials aided in prevention of assault and sexual misconduct, and Department's underlying objectives of security and rehabilitation were legitimate and neutral. Const. Art. 1, § 7; 37 Pa.Code § 93.2.
Payne	DOC	871 A.2d 795	4/29/2005	PA	Sentence	Total Confinement	Statute criminalizing delivery or entry of obscene material into correctional facility, and criminalizing possession of obscene material by an inmate did not afford inmates the right to have an impartial tribunal determine what constitutes "obscene" for purposes of Department of Corrections regulation prohibiting prison inmates from sending or receiving correspondence containing obscene materials. 18 Pa.C.S.A. § 5903; 37 Pa.Code § 93.2.
Jackson	Vaughn [DOC]	777 A.2d 436	7/18/2001	PA	Sentence	Total Confinement	Prisoner not entitled to credit for presentence time served against his third degree murder sentence, where credit had already been applied to sentence for parole violations. Rule 1406(c).
	Jones	700 A.2d 423	9/17/1997	PA	Sentence	Total Confinement	Prisoner mailbox rule,' which provides that appeal by pro se prisoner is deemed filed on date prisoner deposits appeal with prison authorities and/or places it in prison mailbox, although appeal is actually received by court after deadline for filing appeal
Brown	DOC	913 A.2d 301	9/8/2006	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Trial court order denying inmate in forma pauperis status was not an abuse of discretion, in proceeding in which inmate sought a declaratory judgment stating that the Department of Corrections (DOC) and others had violated their own rules, laws, and procedures governing inmate discipline; the three strikes provision in the Prison Litigation Reform Act (PLRA) provided a jurisdictional hurdle that an inmate seeking in forma pauperis status had to overcome, and inmate had already accumulated three strikes for frivolous law suits pursuant to the PLRA. 42 Pa.C.S.A. §§ 6601, 6602(e)(2).

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Brown	DOC	913 A.2d 301	9/8/2006	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	The trial court's refusal to allow inmate to proceed in forma pauperis did not deprive inmate of access to the courts; inmate was not prevented from filing his lawsuit against the Department of Corrections (DOC) and others, defendants filed a motion to dismiss, and inmate had an opportunity to respond to the motion. U.S.C.A. Const.Amend. 5; Const. Art. 1, § 1.
Meggett	DOC	892 A.2d 872	2/13/2006	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Prison policy limiting "Afro" hairstyles to four inches in length was reasonably related to prison's interest in eliminating use of long hair to conceal and move contraband, in aiding prison staff in identification of inmates, and in advancing inmate hygiene, and thus, outweighed rights inmate had under First Amendment's Establishment and Free Speech Clauses to wear his hair in long dreadlocks. U.S.C.A. Const.Amend. 1.
Silo	Com. of PA	886 A.2d 1193	11/23/2005	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Inmate, who was resident of specialized correctional institution designed to provide long-term care to elderly and seriously ill inmates, did not fall within statutorily defined class of persons that long-term care ombudsman, created under state Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, was designated to serve, and thus refusal of inmate's request of long-term care ombudsman services was not discrimination against protected class of long-term care residents protected by Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
Yount	DOC	886 A.2d 1163	11/17/2005	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Alleged failure of superintendent of state correctional institution to timely respond to inmate's administrative appeal of dismissal of his grievance concerning his transfer to another institution did not violate inmate's due process rights, even though inmate's grievance was dismissed because he failed to timely file grievance; superintendent's delay did not impose an atypical hardship on inmate in relation to the ordinary incidents of prison life. U.S.C.A. Const.Amend. 14.
Montgomery County	DOC	879 A.2d 843	8/4/2005	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Legislative amendment required Department of Corrections (DOC) to bear and pay costs of trial for all crimes and offenses committed by inmates at state correctional institutions or on grounds of such institutions, whether or not they were committed during an escape. 61 P.S. § 2151(b).
Heffran	DOC	878 A.2d 985	7/15/2005	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Department of Corrections' incident report prepared after two inmates became ill, requiring medical treatment, was a mere recitation of historical fact and did not constitute an essential component of the Department's decision to provide inmates with medical treatment, and thus reports were not public records under provision of Right-to-Know Law granting public access to decisions by an agency fixing personal rights. 65 P.S. §§ 66.1, 66.2(a).

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Heffran	DOC	878 A.2d 985	7/15/2005	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Under Right-to-Know Law section providing public access to decisions by an agency fixing personal or property rights, a "decision" is a document (1) that was generated by an agency, (2) that constitutes a decision or was an essential component to an agency's decision, (3) that fixes the personal rights of a prisoner, and (4) that is not protected by statute, order, or decree of court. 65 P.S. §§ 66.1, 66.2(a).
	Johnson	878 A.2d 973	7/12/2005	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Court of Common Pleas was not permitted to sentence defendant to 30 days in jail for violating her local property maintenance ordinance, where the penalty established in township ordinance did not include any term of imprisonment; ordinance authorized only the imposition of a fine. 53 P.S. § 66601.
Feigley	DOC	872 A.2d 189	4/15/2005	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Alleged smaller range of items and higher prices at inmate's prison commissary than at other prison commissaries was not an unreasonable classification of inmates in violation of state equal protection guarantee; alleged "better deals" at other commissaries could have stemmed from such factors as individual management decisions by various commissary managers, overall nature of prison population, or institution's location with respect to suppliers' locations. Const. Art. 1, §§ 1, 26.
Heffran	Dept. of Labor & Industry	863 A.2d 1260	12/23/2004	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Inmate who worked in correctional institution's shoe shop was not "employee" of correctional institution, and thus did not have standing to file complaint with state Department of Labor and Industry (L&I) for correctional institution's alleged violations of workplace safety requirements of Worker and Community Right-to-Know Act; there was no employer/employee relationship between inmate and correctional institution because inmate's labor belonged to correctional institution, and remuneration paid to inmate by correctional institution was gratuitous payment authorized by state as rehabilitative tool rather than wages. 35 P.S. § 7302.
Moss	DOC	868 A.2d 615	11/18/2004	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Stationary policy of Department of Corrections (DOC), which provided that inmates were entitled to 100 sheets of paper, six sheets of carbon paper, ten envelopes, and \$10.00 in postage per month did not violate inmate's constitutional right of access to the courts; policy was legitimate and neutral and restriction had rational connection to asserted goals, inmate's inability to file certain documents with courts was due to his excessive legal filings and his inability to prioritize them, not to DOC's policy, and inmate failed to set forth any readily available alternatives to DOC's policy.

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Garber	DOC	851 A.2d 222	6/7/2004	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Inmate who challenged Department of Corrections' policy prohibiting contact visits between convicted sex offenders and minor children did not have a clear legal right to mandamus relief; inmate did not have a constitutional right to contact visits with minor children, and restriction was rationally related to legitimate penological interests.
Vega	Beard [DOC]	847 A.2d 153	3/24/2004	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Under Corrections Code provision that allowed deductions from an inmate's account for fines and court costs for which the inmate was liable pursuant to a previous court order, such deductions could not be made pursuant to a court order that was not part of a criminal proceeding, and thus, inmate's petition alleging that Department of Corrections improperly deducted his child support obligations from his account was sufficient to establish a right to relief. 42 Pa.C.S.A. § 9728(b)(5).
Danysh	DOC	845 A.2d 260	3/24/2004	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Personal gifts that were deposited into inmate's prison account were appropriately classified as funds subject to deduction by Department of Corrections for restitution, fees, costs, and fines, as a legitimate consequence of his criminal conviction. 42 Pa.C.S.A. §§ 8127, 9728(b)(5).
Smith	DOC	837 A.2d 652	12/9/2003	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	The Department of Corrections was not authorized to obtain a DNA sample from inmate based on inmate's convictions for robbery and burglary; statute that provided authority for the Department to obtain DNA samples required that a defendant be convicted of an enumerated offense and that the defendant be confined in connection with that offense, robbery and burglary were enumerated offenses, however inmate's sentence for robbery and burglary had expired, and inmate was serving a sentence for a different offense. 42 Pa.C.S.A. § 4716(b).
Moss	DOC	838 A.2d 32	12/5/2003	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Commonwealth was entitled to recover labor costs attributable to inmate's misconduct that flooded his cell and surrounding areas, even though employees involved in clean up and repair were already on Commonwealth's payroll. 37 Pa.Code § 93.10(a)(2)(iii).
	Parella	834 A.2d 1253	10/31/2003	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	If an inmate challenges deductions from his prison account, under statute authorizing such deductions to pay costs and restitution, by questioning whether he was afforded an ability to pay inquiry at the time of his original sentence, such a challenge implicates the validity of the original sentence and should be heard by the common pleas court, rather than Commonwealth Court, regardless of the place of confinement. 42 Pa.C.S.A. § 9728(b)(5).

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Kreamer	DOC	834 A.2d 710	10/27/2003	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	In ruling upon Department of Corrections' preliminary objections, which were in the nature of a demurrer, Commonwealth Court was required to accept as true all well-pleaded allegations of material fact and all inferences reasonably deducible from them, including defendant's allegation that he was paroled from prior sentence after 48 hours, and, as a result, defendant would be entitled to an order directing Department to give him credit on sentence for driving under the influence (DUI) for period after he was paroled.
Buck	Beard [DOC]	834 A.2d 696	10/24/2003	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Statute governing collection of fines and costs, commonly referred to as Act 84, authorizes Department of Corrections (DOC) to make monetary deductions from an inmate's account to pay court ordered fines and costs and does not impose prior court authorization as a threshold condition. 42 Pa.C.S.A. § 9728(b)(5). Application didnot violate ex post facto clause of the United States Constitution, where Act was enacted before inmate was sentenced.
Singleton	Lavan [DOC]	834 A.2d 672	10/22/2003	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	DNA Act, mandating that persons convicted of certain classes of offenses must submit a sample of their DNA for inclusion in DNA database, is constitutional. Prison officials' placement of inmate in restrictive housing unit (RHU), after inmate refused to submit a DNA sample as required under the DNA Act, did not violate inmate's due process rights, even though inmate experienced change in his custody level and visitation status; prison officials had authority to determine where inmate should be housed, and the Due Process Clause imposed few restrictions on use of that authority.
George	Beard [DOC]	824 A.2d 393	5/22/2003	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Statute governing collection of fines and costs authorizes DOC to make monetary deductions from inmate's account to pay court ordered fines and costs and does not impose prior court authorization as a threshold condition. Inmate was not entitled to reimbursement from DOC for funds deducted from his account, where funds were sent to the appropriate county agent for payment of court ordered obligations. 42/9728(b)(5).
Harding	Stickman [DOC]	823 A.2d 1110	5/21/2003	PA Cmwlth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Statute authorizing correctional facility to make monetary deductions from inmate personal accounts for purpose of collecting restitution or any other court-ordered obligations is not penal in nature; rather it provides a procedural mechanism for the collection of court costs and fines. 42/9728(b).

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Sontag	Ward [PBPP]	789 A.2d 778	11/20/2001	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Requirement that inmate admit guilt in order to qualify for sex offender program leading to parole did not violate privilege against self-incrimination; privilege did not extend to consequences of a non-criminal nature. Just because one has a constitutional right does not mean that no adverse consequences can flow from exercising such a right.
Sontag	Ward [PBPP]	789 A.2d 778	11/20/2001	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	PBPP did not improperly deny inmate parole based on lack of recommendation from DOC; Board was required only to consider inmate's application for parole, not grant it.
Bell	Horn [DOC]	762 A.2d 776	11/17/2000	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	DOC policy prohibiting convicted sex-offenders from participating in prerelease programs treated all sex offenders alike and was rationally related to the legitimate purpose of protecting the safety of the community, and thus, did not violate equal protection.
Buehl	Horn [DOC]	761 A.2d 1247	7/21/2000	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Removal of typewriters from prison law library did not violate inmates' rights to due process and equal protection, where they lacked a personal or a proprietary interest in them.
Hackett	Horn [DOC]	751 A.2d 272	5/5/2000	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Correctional officers did not violate inmates constitutional rights by informing him that, pursuant to prison regulation, he was limited to one box of legal materials and ten law books since officers were acting pursuant to a valid institutional policy rationally related to safety and security and did not deprive inmate of due process right of access to the courts.
Brome	DOC	756 A.2d 87	5/2/2000	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Department of Corrections had authority to assess inmate's prison account to pay the medical costs of treating corrections officer, who was injured during inmate's assault. 71/310-4.
Saunders	DOC	749 A.2d 553	4/5/2000	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Commonwealth Court would not issue writ of mandamus to compel DOC to modify computation of prisoner's dates of confinement for sentence imposed upon parole revocation; prisoner could seek relief from the sentencing court by showing that the court's intent, when sentencing him for violating probation sentence for aggravated assault, was to credit him for the period of confinement for concurrent sentence for criminal attempt.
Byrd	DOC	743 A.2d 532	11/19/1999	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	DOC was not authorized to order inmate to pay two-thirds of the medical costs incurred by the Commonwealth, due to the inmate's assault of another prisoner, under Prison Medical Services Act or Department regulations, where the assault and subsequent medical services occurred three years before effective date of the Act and five years before the effective date of the regulations.

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Hugie	Horn [DOC]	730 A.2d 1042	5/26/1999	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	DOC acted within its discretion in denying inmate's request for admission to pre-release program based, in part, upon his history of violent acts. Participation in pre-release program is a special privilege granted for satisfactory behavior in prison.
Feigley	DOC	731 A.2d 220	5/11/1999	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	DOC complied with Criminal History Record Information Act (CHRIA), with respect to inmate's challenge to the accuracy of his criminal history records, where unit manager informed inmate within two days of his submission of an inmate's request detailing the alleged inaccuracies that the allegations were without merit.
Greene	DOC	729 A.2d 652	4/19/1999	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	DOC had statutory authority to assess prisoner's inmate account for injured inmate's medical costs arising from prisoner's involvement in assault on inmate; no statute of limitations applicable to assessment. 61 P.S. Sec. 1013(b).
Jochen	Horn [DOC]	727 A.2d 645	3/30/1999	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Since fire safety violations at DOC facility did not present substantial and imminent threat to inmates, as evidenced by grant of variances and extensions to fix problems, DOC knowledge of violations did not constitute 'deliberate indifference' to the inmates.
Anderson	Horn [DOC]	723 A.2d 254	12/23/1998	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	DOC had authority to withdraw funds from inmate's account as restitution for medical expenses arising from inmate's misconduct in fighting with second inmate and assaulting correctional officer.
Bullock	Horn [DOC]	720 A.2d 1079	11/17/1998	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Prisoner is not entitled to the clothing of his choice; inmate incarcerated in Restricted Housing Unit received adequate clothing to exercise during winter months.
Davis	Brennan	698 A.2d 1382	8/6/1997	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Genuine issue of material fact as to nature of shower stall in which inmate allegedly fell and was injured when 'grab bar' broke free precluded summary judgment as to applicability of real property exception to governmental immunity under Political Subdi
Hunt	DOC	698 A.2d 147	7/21/1997	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Inmate's medical and mental health records were not 'public records' subject to disclosure under Right-to-Know Act.
DeHart	Horn [DOC]	694 A.2d 16	5/22/1997	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	There is no requirement, statutory or otherwise, that inmates be afforded two hours of 'meaningful' daily exercise. Denial of recreation to prisoners for short period of time is not per se 8th Amendment violation.
Logan	Horn [DOC]	692 A.2d 1157	4/21/1997	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Inmates had no protected liberty interest in outside clearance status allowing them to work outside prison, thus precluding finding of due process violation in revocation of that status, even if inmates did have excellent prison records and were not charg

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Eldridge	Vaughn [DOC]	692 A.2d 616	4/10/1997	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Requirement that prisoner participate in treatment program in which he/she is required to admit crime for which he/she has been convicted as a prerequisite for favorable recommendation for parole does not violate right against self-incrimination.
Auberzinski	DOC	690 A.2d 776	2/26/1997	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Inmate maintained no constitutional right to participate in a pre-release program; temporary home furlough program is a special privilege granted for satisfactory behavior, not a right.
Aultman	DOC	686 A.2d 40	11/8/1996	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Prison inmate did not have property interest in receiving benefit of inmate allowance, and thus DOC did not violate inmate's due process rights by deducting his school allowance pay from his inmate allowance pay without holding hearing.
Kisner	DOC	683 A.2d 353	9/30/1996	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Central Office Review Committee (CORC) performs statewide policymaking function and thus is subject to review in Commonwealth Court's original jurisdiction, as related to final level of review in inmate review system for resolution of grievances.
Wilder	DOC	673 A.2d 30	3/13/1996	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	Due process clause did not create liberty interest in prisoner's participation in pre-release program; no requirement to reinstate pre-release status following review finding that exonerated prisoner of any misconduct; no mandamus relief.
Maute	Frank	670 A.2d 737	1/22/1996	PA Cmwth	Sentence	Total Confinement	A Native American prison inmate was not entitled to mandamus relief from prison officials' alleged denial of his right to practice his religion based on need for orderly administration of prison and other remedies available to inmate.
	McIntosh	911 A.2d 513	11/6/2006	PA Super	Sentence	Total Confinement	Sentence imposed by trial court for sexual assault conviction, wherein court imposed sentence of 11 and one half months to 23 months imprisonment but then immediately granted parole restricted to house arrest, did not violate statute prohibiting intermediate punishment, such as house arrest, for that offense; sentence was literally one of total confinement followed by parole, rather than direct imposition of sentence of house arrest. 18 Pa.C.S.A. § 3124.1; 42 Pa.C.S.A. §§ 9802, 9804.
	Kleinicke	895 A.2d 562	3/8/2006	PA Super	Sentence	Total Confinement	Under an "indeterminate sentencing scheme," as employed in Pennsylvania, the sentencing judge announces a range consisting of a minimum and maximum sentence, and the sentence that a defendant will actually serve is dependent upon whether he is granted parole by parole board, which has authority to do so after expiration of the minimum, but under a "determinate sentencing scheme," a defendant is sentenced to a set number of years imprisonment, otherwise called a flat sentence, with parole being abolished. 42 Pa.C.S.A. § 9756.

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	Stemple	940 A.2d 504	1/2/2008	PA Super	Sentence	Total Confinement	Under an indeterminate sentencing scheme, as employed in Pennsylvania, a sentencing court, when imposing a penalty of confinement, announces a sentence that includes both a minimum and a maximum term; the time the defendant will actually serve in custody is indeterminate at the moment of sentencing because the defendant may ultimately serve only the minimum, the maximum or any sentence between the two. 42 Pa.C.S.A. § 9756(a).
	Stemple	940 A.2d 504	1/2/2008	PA Super	Sentence	Total Confinement	Statutes that mandate minimum periods of incarceration serve only to limit the sentencing court's discretion as to the minimum term, not as to the maximum term.
	Kleinicke	895 A.2d 562	3/8/2006	PA Super	Sentence	Total Confinement	Under Pennsylvania's indeterminate sentencing scheme, a minimum sentence serves as a guide to the earliest potential release date.
	Kleinicke	895 A.2d 562	3/8/2006	PA Super	Sentence	Total Confinement	Under state sentencing guidelines, the potential maximum sentence is always coextensive with the statutory maximum authorized by the jury verdict or the guilty plea.
Com. Ex Rel Fortune	Dragovich	792 A.2d 1257	2/19/2002	PA Super	Sentence	Total Confinement	Inmate's allegations concerning his transfer between prisons and housing in current prison do not provide cognizable basis for issuance of writ of habeas corpus; allegations in inmate's petition arose from prison officials' exercise of discretion in superintending placement of prisoners.
	Tuddles	782 A.2d 560	8/14/2001	PA Super	Sentence	Total Confinement	Statute providing for prisoner's absense from jail for occupational or other purposes does not create right or mechanism for prisoners to claim entitlement to go outside walls; it does nothing more than recognize by statute power to direct temporary release when court deems it proper and does not suggest that court is at any time obligated to do so. 61/2141.
Banks	DOC	759 A.2d 432	9/18/2000	PA Super	Sentence	Total Confinement	Pursuant to DOC's internal directives, DOC was required to provide inmate with a decision from his final appeal of prison misconduct matter, even if it was only to state that chief hearing examiner found that his appeal was untimely.
	Townsend	693 A.2d 980	4/9/1997	PA Super	Sentence	Total Confinement	Court lacked discretion to order that defendant serve sentence of 18 months to five years at county jail, as defendant sentenced to serve a term of five years or more must serve the sentence in a state institution, and judge has no authority or discretion
	Townsend	693 A.2d 980	4/9/1997	PA Super	Sentence	Total Confinement	Where plea contained negotiated term of confinement, court could not unilaterally alter length of defendant's incarceration to make him eligible to serve time at county facility.
DOC	Yeskey	524 US 206	6/15/1998	US	Sentence	Total Confinement	Exclusion of inmate from admission to the state Motivational Boot Camp due to medical history of hypertension violated the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

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Newsuan	DOC	853 A.2d 409	7/6/2004		Sentence	Total Confinement	Inmate who was convicted of state and federal offenses was required to serve his state and federal sentences consecutively rather than concurrently, contrary to state court's sentencing order; although state court may have directed state sentence for criminal trespass to run concurrently with federal sentence for fraud, the court lacked authority to do so, as state, the first arresting sovereign, had primary jurisdiction over defendant, which required inmate to satisfy his state sentences before he could be released to federal authorities, and decision of whether defendant could serve his state sentence in federal penitentiary was reserved exclusively for Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP). 18 U.S.C.A. §§ 3585(a), 3621(b).
Bell	Horn [DOC]	762 A.2d 776	11/17/2000	PA Cmwth	Constitutionality	Prison regulation	Constitutional guarantee of equal protection of the laws does not obligate the government to treat all persons alike; rather, it assures that all similarly situated persons are treated alike.
Bell	Horn [DOC]	762 A.2d 776	11/17/2000	PA Cmwth	Constitutionality	Prison regulation	DOC policy prohibiting convicted sex-offenders from participating in prerelease programs treated all sex offenders alike and was rationally related to the legitimate purpose of protecting the safety of the community, and thus, did not violate equal protection.
Buehl	Horn [DOC]	761 A.2d 1247	7/21/2000	PA Cmwth	Constitutionality	Prison regulation	Removal of typewriters from prison law library did not violate inmates' rights to due process and equal protection, where they lacked a personal or a proprietary interest in them.
Wise	DOC	690 A.2d 846	3/11/1997	PA Cmwth	Constitutionality	Prison regulation	Prison regulation restricting hair length of male inmates but not female inmates reasonably related to legitimate penological interest of advancing security, in light of differing physical and psychological characteristics, thus did not violate rights.
Maute	Frank	670 A.2d 737	1/22/1996	PA Cmwth	Constitutionality	Prison regulation	A Native American prison inmate was not entitled to mandamus relief from prison officials' alleged denial of his right to practice his religion based on need for orderly administration of prison and other remedies available to inmate.