

Qualifications

1. Ordained, Licensed or Commissioned from a recognized church affiliation.
2. Minimum of two years actively involved in a recognized church.
3. Minimum of 2 years of college, or equivalent to 24 units of educational experience in (counseling or theology).
4. Demonstrate godly leadership and qualities.
5. Must have worked a minimum of one year as a chaplain or volunteer in a correctional facility.
6. Must be able to multi-task
7. Strong leadership skills and supervisory abilities.
8. Must have excellent verbal and written skills.
9. Strong communication skills
10. Ability to interact effectively with all faiths and break down barriers across diverse cultures.
11. Must be a team builder, devoted and committed to the work at hand.

Security Check

Chaplains and Religious Volunteers will be cleared to the facility only after successful completion of a warrant and record check. Persons who fall within the following criteria will not be admitted:

- Persons with outstanding arrest warrants.
- Persons currently on parole.
- Persons who have been incarcerated in any facility within the last three years.
- Persons who have used illegal controlled substance within the last three years.
- Persons who are currently being treated for a psychiatric disorder.
- Persons who have been arrested for murder.
- Persons who have been convicted of a weapons law violation.
- Persons who have been convicted of a sex crime.
- Persons who currently have a relative incarcerated in the facility they're visiting.



“To open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house.”

—Isaiah 42:7 KJV



**PRISON MINISTRY OF
AMERICA**

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Correctional Chaplains Ministry



**“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me,
Because the LORD has anointed Me
To preach good tidings to the poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives,
And the opening of the prison to those who
are bound”.**

— Isaiah 61:1 NKJV

Behind Prison Walls

Jail and prison chaplains serve in an environment that consists of condemned murderers and incorrigible criminals. They are locked in cement buildings with tall, concrete guard towers, behind barbed-wire fences topped with razor wire. They must pass the scrutiny of traffic control officers peering through bulletproof glass windows and speaking through the crackling squawk of voice-distorted speakers. They press the buzzers to release locks on a series of heavy steel gates that clang, slide sideways, and clatter shut again. Not a typical office or job setting. The sense of alienation from the outside world increases when walking down the corridors, the clicking sound of each footstep echoing and bouncing off the concrete walls. It's a dark place in an atmosphere where the correctional system has little or no hope that these inmates can change.

The PMA Team That Ministers Behind Walls

Prison Ministry of America has over 88 years experience and have ministered in 40 states in the U.S., and 12 different counties, bringing the good news of the GOSPEL. It's imperative to us as an organization that God's WORD is being brought forth through our Chaplains and volunteers and its programs. With these years of experience in Correctional Ministry, PMA has seen first-hand the transformation of people's lives. Change from a criminal, drug abuser and violent person to law abiding citizens and productive members of society. Some have even become chaplains.

☞ **It's imperative to us as an organization that we give our best to the facility and the inmate population.**

Statement of Faith

We Believe in one God, Creator and Lord of the Universe. **We Believe** that Jesus Christ, God's Son, was conceived by the Holy Spirit. **We Believe** that the Bible is God's authoritative and inspired word. **We Believe** that all people are lost sinners and cannot see the Kingdom of God except through new birth. **We Believe** in one holy, universal, and Apostolic Church. **We believe** in the necessity of the work of the Holy Spirit for the individual's new birth and growth to maturity. **We Believe** that Jesus Christ will personally and visibly return in glory to raise the dead and bring salvation and judgment to completion.

Three Fold Roles

Teaching behavior in the areas of spirituality, moral and stability will help to ensure the success rate of individuals as productive citizens returning to society.

The correctional Chaplain is three fold:

First Role: Security and Safety is the most important aspect of his/her role as a correctional facility chaplain.

Second Role: The chaplain must act as a liaison between staff personnel and volunteers. Assuring all needs are met from the correctional facility, its inmate population and the volunteers.

Third Role: The chaplain must be a team player working alongside of staff personnel on day to day operations.

Core Values

- Future For All
- Gospel
- Inclusive
- Faithfulness
- Hope
- Faith
- Compassion
- Service
- Integrity
- Inspiration
- Information

Duties

- Implement and assist volunteer(s) to coordinate spiritual services for inmates.
- Provide biblical counsel and spiritual guidance for inmates, when needed by the direction of the Chaplain(s).
- Willingness to be trained to conduct death notifications to inmates, as is appropriate.
- Supervise volunteers and assist other Chaplain(s) to direct and sponsor interdenominational worship services and religious educational activities for inmates.
- Coordinate and supervise volunteers from all faiths, as is appropriate.
- Cultivate teachings and principles of brotherly love, justice and fidelity among those incarcerated.
- Assist in the coordination and supervision of preventive ministry programs and rehabilitation referrals during period of incarceration and upon release.
- Screen and supervise the activities of all volunteers who wish to participate in religious programs.
- Manage and assist visiting clergy in their contacts with inmates housed in the facilities, confirming their credentials.
- Responsible for documentation, screening and distribution of religious materials.
- Assist other Chaplain(s) by responding to inmate request forms and follow-up, as directed.

