POLICY STATEMENT:

A petty cash fund may be established for the purpose of paying small obligations.

POLICY:

A. Central Office may have a petty cash fund. The Finance Division Administrator, Budget and Operations Administration (BOA), shall be responsible for the petty cash fund and for designating a cash box custodian as set forth in this policy.

B. Each Field Operations Administration (FOA) facility and field office may have a petty cash fund, subject to the approval of the FOA Deputy Director or designee, and the Finance Division Administrator. Each Correctional Facilities Administration (CFA) facility and business office may have a petty cash fund, subject to the approval of the Finance Division Administrator. Approval shall be based on demonstrated need for a petty cash fund.

C. Petty cash funds shall only be used to pay for purchases, services or other obligations that are less than $100 and cannot be paid by using a State gasoline credit or procurement card.

D. An FOA administrator who wants to establish a petty cash fund must submit a written request to the FOA Deputy Director or designee, through his/her chain of command, explaining in detail the need and proposed uses for the petty cash fund and the amount requested. If the Deputy Director or designee approves the request, s/he shall submit the request to the Finance Division Administrator for review and approval as required by Department of Technology, Management and Budget procedure.

E. A Warden, or Assistant Deputy Director (ADD), or designee, who wants to establish a petty cash fund must submit a written request to the Finance Division Administrator for review and approval. The request shall explain in detail the need and proposed uses for the petty cash fund and indicate the amount requested.

F. If the Finance Division Administrator approves the request, s/he shall establish a limit on the amount of money to be maintained in the petty cash fund. The Finance Division Administrator shall retain documentation of the criteria used for determining the amount approved.

G. If the request to establish a petty cash fund is approved, the Warden or Administrator shall designate appropriate supervisory staff to be responsible for the petty cash fund, including disbursement of the funds. Funds may be used only to pay for an approved expenditure or to reimburse staff for an approved expenditure made with personal funds.

H. Each disbursement from a petty cash fund shall be supported by appropriate documentation, including a receipt or a vendor invoice bearing the signature of the employee receiving the goods or services for which the funds are requested.

I. The Warden or Administrator shall designate a cash box custodian who shall be responsible for the following:

   1. Securing the cash box;
   2. Disbursing petty cash from the cash box;
   3. Retaining receipts or other appropriate documentation supporting petty cash fund disbursements;
   4. Issuing and retaining receipts signed by staff receiving petty cash fund disbursements;
5. Replenishing cash box funds when necessary.

J. The Warden or Administrator may designate an alternate cash box custodian to assume the duties set forth in Paragraph I in the absence of the cash box custodian.

K. The appropriate CFA Business Office or FOA Region Manager or designee, as appropriate, shall reconcile each cash box monthly to ensure that the funds remaining in the cash box plus receipts for disbursements equal the total amount of the petty cash fund as.

L. In accordance with the Year-End Closing Guide, the Finance Division Administrator shall review approved amounts for each cash box to determine if the amounts are adequate, but not excessive. S/he also shall confirm to the Department of Technology, Management and Budget that all Department petty cash fund balances have been reconciled.

M. The Finance Division Administrator may reduce the amount of petty cash approved if the utilization of the cash box does not demonstrate the need to maintain a petty cash fund in that amount.

N. Noncompliance with this policy or relevant sections of the Department of Technology, Management and Budget Administrative Guide to State Government may result in the Finance Division Administrator rescinding approval of a petty cash fund or reducing the amount of funds approved for the fund.

PROCEDURES

O. Wardens, Assistant Deputy Directors, and the FOA Deputy Director shall ensure that procedures are developed as necessary to implement requirements set forth in this policy directive. This shall be completed within 60 calendar days after the effective date of this policy directive. This requirement includes ensuring that existing procedures are revised or rescinded, as appropriate, if inconsistent with policy requirements or no longer needed. Facility procedures shall not conflict with procedures issued by the Director.

AUDIT ELEMENTS

P. A primary audit elements list has been developed and is available on the Department's Document Access System to assist with self-audit of this policy pursuant to PD 01.05.100 "Self Audit of Policies and Procedures."

APPROVED: DHH 04/23/14