American Jails

PUBLICATION GUIDELINES

Deliver articles as Microsoft Word (docx) documents in 12-point Times New Roman. Use boldface and italics sparingly in the text. Do not use all caps, hard returns, or double spaces.

1

WORD COUNT

Articles must be between 1200 and 3500 words, including resources and an author biography.

2

INCLUDE AN AUTHOR BIO

Include a 75-word-or-less biography for each author, with a contact email at the end of the article. If there are more than three authors, only provide certifications, job title, place of employment, and contact email.

3

USE APA FORMAT

References MUST be listed in APA format at the end of the article. Do NOT include hyperlinks throughout the article.

4

DO NOT USE FOOTNOTES/ENDNOTES

Footnotes/endnotes should be incorporated into the text or cited in the reference list.

5

ARTICLES MUST BE VENDOR NEUTRAL

Do not mention companies, brands, products, or services in the body of the article. AJA does not publish advertorials.

6

SUBMIT PHOTOS SEPARATELY

Photos and other graphics must be sent as separate files, not embedded in the article or email. Provide high-resolution (300 dpi or greater) electronic files (JPEG, TIFF, EPS, or PNG). Clearly identify each photo with a brief caption. It is not a guarantee that AJA will use photos/graphics included with the article.

ALL ARTICLES MUST BE REVIEWED BEFORE ACCEPTANCE OF PUBLICATION

Articles are copyedited, then sent to the author for final review. Any changes the author makes after the copyedited article must either be highlighted in yellow or tracked by Word. Submissions are due to Madyson Bracken at submissions@aja.org

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Submitting an article by an issue's deadline does not guarantee placement in that issue. We review all submissions for fit, quality, and available space, and may schedule them for a future edition or digital publication.

Quarter 1, 2027 - Emerging Trends & New Directions

Print Submissions Deadline: **Closed**
Digital Submissions Deadline: **December 15, 2026**

Quarter 2, 2027 - Corrections Staffing & Retention

Print Submissions Deadline: **December 14, 2026**
Digital Submissions Deadline: **March 16, 2027**

Quarter 3, 2027 - Spokane Conference Highlights

Print Submissions Deadline: **March 15, 2027**
Digital Submissions Deadline: **June 15, 2027**

Quarter 4, 2027 - United in Service: Honoring Correctional Staff

Print Submissions Deadline: **June 15, 2027**
Digital Submissions Deadline: **September 15, 2027**

Digital-exclusive articles appear in the digital edition of American Jails alongside the print-published content.

These pieces let us feature additional member insights, timely topics, and expanded coverage that may not fit within the print magazine's page limits.

We also promote digital-exclusive articles through the same online channels we use to highlight print content.