



## State of Connecticut Department of Correction

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### For Immediate Release

# First Department of Correction Offender dies from COVID-19 virus

Monday, April 13, 2020

A Department of Correction offender in his sixties passed away on Monday, April 13, 2020 after contracting the novel coronavirus.

The offender, who is not being identified, was initially tested for the presence of the virus on April,6 after exhibiting symptoms associated with the COVID-19 virus.

He was taken to the UConn Health Center for intensive treatment of his illness on April 8.

The test result came back positive for the virus on April 9.

The offender, who had preexisting underlying medical conditions, succumbed to his illness today.

The individual last entered the correctional system on March 13, 2019, and was serving a two-year sentence for Criminal Possession of a Firearm.

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Although the offender was approved, last month, for discretionary release into the community, an appropriate home sponsor could not be located by the offender.

As a result, the offender would have had no place to stay upon release and remained in the facility.

His maximum release date was March 12, 2021.

“My sympathies go out to the offender’s family,” said Department of Correction Commissioner Rollin Cook. “One death is too many, he joins the more the approximately 600 Connecticut residents who have lost their lives to this tragic disease. We will continue to do everything possible to keep the offenders and staff safe.”