



State of Connecticut Department of Correction

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For Immediate Release

Five Department of Correction Offender Tests Positive for the COVID-19 Virus

Wednesday, April 1, 2020

Five Department of Correction (DOC) offenders have tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. The offenders are all housed in the Cybulski building of the Willard-Cybulski Correctional Institution in Enfield, CT.

All five individuals have been isolated from the rest of the population, and are receiving medical care from the Agency's Healthcare staff.

The individual's names are being withheld due to HIPAA regulations.

To further limit the spread of the virus, and for the protection of the offender population, the Department of Correction has placed the entire Willard-Cybulski facility on lockdown status effective immediately. While on lockdown, offenders will have the opportunity for daily showers and to place phone calls.

The newly confirmed positive tests brings the total number of offenders agency wide who have the COVID-19 virus to seven, representing approximately .06% of the incarcerated population.

The Agency will continue to reassess the developing situation and revise its operational plans appropriately.

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“As in the community at large, we at the Department of Correction anticipated that there would be an increase in the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases, and we are prepared for this scenario.” said DOC Commissioner Rollin Cook. “Let’s not forget that the offenders who have tested positive have been isolated and are receiving medical care within the facilities. Another great reason for our community to be proud of our dedicated staff and their selfless service on the front line of these challenges 24-7.”

A review of which staff members the offenders interacted with has been conducted and proper notifications are being made.

The DOC continues its concerted efforts to responsibly release those offenders who are eligible back into the community. As a result, the current offender population on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 is 11,840, an additional decrease of 210 individuals from Wednesday, March 25, 2020.

Agency wide, The Department of Correction has taken several steps to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus to include: the suspension of outside visits; wellness checks of anyone entering the building; ongoing disinfecting efforts; all new intakes being placed in 14-day isolation units; and the reduction of inter-facility transfers.

For more information on the Agency’s efforts regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, go to Health Advisories and Information page on the DOC’s website:

<https://portal.ct.gov/DOC/Common-Elements/Common-Elements/Health-Information-and-Advisories>