



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1110

July 10, 2020

TO: All Incarcerated Individuals and Work Release Residents

FROM: Julie Martin, Deputy Secretary *Julie Martin*
Robert Herzog, Assistant Secretary, Prisons Division *Robert Herzog*
Danielle Armbruster, Assistant Secretary, Reentry Division *Danielle Armbruster*

RE: Updated guidance re: face coverings

On April 10, 2020, Corrections Secretary Stephen Sinclair announced mandatory face coverings for all persons in our facilities, including incarcerated individuals and those residing in our work release facilities. Wearing our face coverings as directed is an important factor in preventing the spread of COVID-19 across our facilities.

That memo included the reminder: Use of cloth face coverings, either purchased or homemade, must meet the requirements of DOC 870.400 Personal Appearance/Uniform Standards, which states “Clothing that depicts violence, gang affiliation, alcohol, or drugs, or which could be construed as sexual in nature, is not authorized.”

We have authorized incarcerated individuals and work release residents to decorate their face coverings within appropriate guidelines. We also advised our staff that if they encounter someone wearing a face covering that depicts violence, derogatory statements, security threat group markings or symbols, or other offensive images, the face covering should be immediately confiscated, a behavioral observation entry (BOE) should be entered and a new face covering should be issued.

We thank you for your continued patience and compliance with our efforts to protect the health and safety of our incarcerated population, our work release residents, our staff and our communities.