



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
MONROE CORRECTIONAL COMPLEX
P.O. Box 777 • Monroe, Washington 98272-0777
Phone (360) 794-2600 • Fax (360) 794-2680

August 3, 2020

TO: MCC Incarcerated Population

FROM: Eric Jackson, Superintendent

SUBJECT: MSU Situation Update

I want to take an opportunity to thank those of you in the population who are actively practicing social distancing, wearing appropriate face coverings, being vigilant in washing your hands and continuing increased cleaning of high touch areas. As of today, we have not received any new positive COVID-19 incarcerated individual cases at MCC since my last update on July 23, 2020. We have streamlined the process of moving symptomatic or COVID-positive individuals to medical isolation and quarantining those who have been exposed to a positive or suspected positive individual.

We have completed initial, secondary and, in some cases, third testing of all of the population at MSU. We've also conducted initial testing of all MCC staff and began serial (weekly) testing of all staff in an effort to keep the number of positive cases from increasing. Incarcerated individuals have asked to receive a copy of their COVID-19 test results and MCC health services is creating a process for that to occur.

Over the past few weeks, there has been limited movement of staff and the incarcerated population at MSU. We have made the decision to have specific staff assigned to work at MSU only, for the time being, to reduce the risk of spreading of COVID-19 to the other facilities.

MSU released from quarantine

As of August 1, 2020, all of the units at MSU have been released from quarantine by medical staff. Moving forward, units will recreate, program and eat meals separately, not mixing with other units. The intent of this is to minimize impacts on the number of individuals that must be quarantined if there is a new confirmed positive or suspected positive individual in the population.

Problems with the movie channel

It has been reported there have been some problems with the new movie channel. Some of these issues were expected and maintenance is working to resolve them as they occur. I want to encourage you to continue to report any additional issues to staff, so that we can get things remedied as quickly as possible.

Resuming work release

We have been receiving questions regarding when releases to work release will resume. The agency is continuing to evaluate that process and, when new information is available, it will be communicated with you.

MSU Situation Update

July 31, 2020

Page 2

Please wear face coverings

Lastly, I want to remind everyone that all incarcerated individuals have been issued face coverings and are required to wear them anytime you are outside of your cell or in dormitory style housing, anytime you leave your assigned bunk. Exceptions have been made for individuals in the yard and gym who are actively working out, i.e. running, as long as social distancing from others is occurring. Individuals are expected to put the face covering back on immediately after the activity.

Face cover reminders:

- Face coverings should always cover the nose and chin
- Face coverings should not hang on one ear, hang around neck or be pushed to forehead

We continue to encourage social distancing, which is six (6) feet of distance between individuals. Wearing a face mask does not replace the social distance expectation. It is a priority to make social distancing the practice on and off the living units.

Failure to follow any written or oral directives regarding face coverings and/or social distancing may result in a WAC violation 103.

Your continued support in these safety measures is greatly appreciated. We will get through these challenging times together.