December 16, 2020

TO: All DOC Staff

FROM: Dan Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Health Services
       Frank Longano, Deputy Chief Medical Officer

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Vaccine Questionnaire and Information

Thank you for your ongoing incredible efforts and support in keeping our incarcerated population and fellow staff members safe and healthy during this unprecedented pandemic. Please know that all of your hard work including physical distancing, wearing surgical masks appropriately, and frequent hand washing are critical to limiting the spread of COVID-19.

The Department of Corrections is in ongoing communication with the Washington Department of Health regarding distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. Although the Department does not yet know when it will receive the first doses, it is preparing for that to occur soon. Once received by Corrections, the COVID-19 vaccination will be offered and administered by the Department in accordance with the approved criteria outlined by the Department of Health. Additional information on the COVID-19 vaccination can be found on the Centers for Disease Control website.

To aid the Department in its planning, we would appreciate your participation in a brief survey, available here, regarding your current state of readiness to accept a vaccine. Please complete the survey to help inform the Department’s health services as to the best approach and relieve concerns about receiving the vaccine, before the Department’s supply arrives.

A similar survey is being completed with the incarcerated population at Cedar Creek Corrections Center, Washington Corrections Center for Women and the Special Offender Unit at Monroe Correctional Complex.

Please know your health and safety are our priority and we continue working towards readiness to receive and administer as many vaccine doses as possible. No words can describe how much we appreciate your ongoing work.

“Working Together for SAFER Communities”