



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
P.O. Box 41101 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1101

December 30, 2020

TO: All DOC Employees

FROM: 
Stephen Sinclair, Secretary

SUBJECT: Stafford Creek Corrections Center Employee Death Due to COVID-19

Our agency was notified yesterday that Correctional Officer David A. Christensen of the Stafford Creek Corrections Center passed away on Tuesday, December 29, 2020 from complications of COVID-19.

It is a tragedy to lose a member of our public safety community and correctional family. Our hearts go out to Officer Christensen's grieving family and the sacrifice they have made.

Officer Christensen, 62 years of age, had most recently worked for the Department since May 2020 after having previously worked for the Department from 2015-2017 at the Clallam Bay and Stafford Creek corrections centers. Officer Christensen had a long career in corrections and criminal justice, working over the years for the [Oregon Department of Corrections](#), [Grays Harbor County Jail](#), [Aberdeen Police Department](#) and the [Grays Harbor County Juvenile Department](#).

The Department will review Officer Christensen's death as a possible line of duty death. For that review, the Department will consult with the following entities: [Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program](#), [National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial](#), [Washington State Law Enforcement Memorial-Behind the Badge Foundation](#) and the [Washington State Department of Labor & Industries](#).

Please continue to take care of yourselves and each other, and know that you make a difference to us and all Washingtonians we serve. I appreciate you and thank you for your service.