



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1100

December 29, 2021

TO: All Prisons Staff

FROM: Sean Murphy, Deputy Secretary

SUBJECT: Extended Family Visit Pause due to COVID-19

Effective, January 4, 2022, the Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC) is temporarily suspending Extended Family Visits (EFV) due to the increasing concerns about the highly contagious Omicron coronavirus variant, and the extended exposure between people who participate in Extended Family Visits (EFV).

This decision does not come easily, as we know the value and positive impact visitation has on incarcerated individuals and their loved ones. DOC will re-evaluate this pause by February 1, 2022 and will provide more information on or before that date.

For those who currently have EFVs scheduled, your visit will be postponed and you will be reimbursed. You may reschedule when EFVs resume and we will do our best to prioritize those whose visit was postponed.

We appreciate your patience during this time. We encourage all visitors and those in our care and custody to get vaccinated if you haven't already. Vaccination, in addition to masking, hand hygiene and physical distancing, are the best methods of mitigating the transmission of COVID-19.