



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
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January 19, 2022

**TO:** All MCC Staff

**FROM:** Ken Bratten, Incident Commander

**SUBJECT:** Monroe Correctional Complex COVID-19 Facility Wide Outbreak

On May 5, 2021, the Department announced an update to the COVID-19 protocols and shared the definition of a Facility Wide Outbreak. Facilities that experience multiple Limited Area Outbreaks are experiencing a Facility Wide Outbreak. A Limited Area Outbreak, is an outbreak, that is very limited to one area. Meaning only the impacted area would be on outbreak status.

The Monroe Correctional Complex (MCC) has had a significant increase of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in staff as well as the incarcerated population from multiple living units. As a result of these COVID-19 positive cases, MCC has started testing the entire population in addition to new testing protocol for staff.

Following the [Prisons Division Cluster and Outbreak Checklist](#) due to the positive COVID-19 tests and the associated quarantined cases that go with them, we have reached a point in time in which we will have to take additional steps to limit the potential exposure of COVID-19 to the incarcerated population.

Beginning today, MCC will be in Facility Wide Outbreak – Restricted Movement Status – due to COVID-19. This change will impact the incarcerated population’s ability to attend regularly scheduled programs, call-outs and services. Additional information will be sent regarding these changes.

The Incident Command Post (ICP) is diligently working to provide appropriate housing for the incarcerated population and ensure that we can maintain staffing levels to meet the requirements for a safe and secure facility. There will be more information to follow as developments occur.

These steps are meant to minimize the short and long-term impact that our response will have on our incarcerated population. As we move forward in the coming days you can expect to see continued cohorting in the dayrooms and shower/bathroom areas, serial testing and/or rapid antigen testing of our incarcerated population. There will also be an increased awareness to personal protective equipment (PPE) protocols, cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting, and social distancing. It is our hope by taking these measures that we can

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MCC Facility Wide Outbreak

January 19, 2022

Page 2

cut down on the amount of potential exposures and reduce the amount of time it will take to get back to a new normal with our operations.

I ask each and every one of you to be committed to following these standards so we can move past these restrictions as quickly as possible. By working together, I know that we can get past this difficult time and get to a place in which we can all have some relief from the restrictions that this pandemic has brought upon us all.

Thank you all for your cooperation and patience through this difficult time.