

# Statewide Family Council COVID-19 Informational Call Notes

**Some questions were grouped together as they were asked by more than one person.  
If specific questions about individuals were asked, they were removed.  
If you have specific questions about your loved one, please contact your local facility.**

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Phone-In Information with others, especially via social media.  
These are internal DOC communication lines, and are not for public posting.**

## Call Details

**Facility:** SFC Informational Call

**Date and Time:** 08/06/2020, 2:00PM

## Attendees

HQ: Jeneva Cotton, Lisa Flynn, Dawn Taylor, Paige Perkinson

HQ Executive Team: Steve Sinclair, Julie Martin, Rob Herzog, Jamison Roberts, Mac Pevey, Mike Steenhout, Melena Thompson, Jeannie Miller, Jeremy Barclay, Susie Leavell

CRCC: Stephanie Biedman

MCC: Felix D'Allesandro

MCCCW: Paula Bond

SCCC: Susan Cooksey

WCCW: Jason Rice

WSP: Wendy Dubinsky

OCO: Joanna Carns, Matthias Gyde

## Weekly Update

### Pre-Submitted Questions

#### Question 1

What is DOC's plan for replacing masks and increasing the number of masks/person? For ensuring that newcomers get access to the same number of masks?

#### Answer

All facilities have received and/or produced extra face coverings. Individuals are able to request new ones to replace them as needed.

#### Question 2

Is it possible to approve a vendor that we can go through to send masks to our loved ones? (Similar to how we use Hanes for bras....) COMBINED WITH Can masks be added to the Canteen and/or the Union Supply property package?

#### Answer

These questions had recently gone to the Executive Strategy Policy group for discussion and the request to provide masks, etc. via commissary or Union Supply was denied. This is based on the supply shortage across the country, as well as the fact that DOC is providing face coverings/masks and cleaning supplies at all facilities. Individuals are able to get free replacements and therefore we do not want individuals or loved ones of

incarcerated individuals to have to pay for something they are already being provided by the department during this economically trying time.

## Additional Questions

### Question

Would the cost of bandwidth expansion be responsibility of DOC or the vendor (including for new potential contracts)?

### Answer

The vendor, and only the vendor, is responsible for any and all costs associated with phones and/or media.

### Question

When will video visits be starting again at CRCC?

### Answer

According to the facility, those will resume in a phased approach on Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup>.

### Question

When visitation is reopened, will it be based on the county of the prison or visitor?

### Answer

There is currently a workgroup that will come up with recommendations for the most effective and safest way to hold visitation in some capacity. More will be coming on this as the workgroup progresses.

### Question

Questions were asked regarding the recent budget strategy memo that was sent to interested parties.

### Answer

Steve and Melena discussed the process and opportunities for input from the community. Also discussed how families can help to encourage legislative bodies and elected officials to amend RCWs that are currently impacting sentencing and confinement processes.

### Question

How is staff serial testing determined?

### Answer

The Prisons/Health Services Unified Command collaborates with the Clinical Leadership to review trends in community spikes, as well as positive results for incarcerated and staff at a facility prior to determining whether implementation of staff serial testing is indicated.

### Question

Why was the request to add PPE to the commissary/Union Supply ordering process denied?

### Answer

As noted previously, this decision was based on the PPE supply shortage across the country, as well as the fact that DOC is providing face coverings/masks and cleaning supplies at all facilities. Individuals are able to get free replacements and therefore we do not want individuals or loved ones of incarcerated individuals to have to pay for something they are already being provided by the department.

### Question

Has Securus responded to the letter sent by Secretary Sinclair voicing concerns?

### Answer

Steve indicated there has not been any promising response, and that the agency is reviewing creative approaches to get people connected again. Again, discussed the workgroup regarding visitation, and that he is looking forward to the recommendations that come forward from this workgroup.

### Question

How far behind are the ISRB in hearing cases?

### Answer

ISRB hearings are not currently behind. They have moved entirely to Skype since COVID which has allowed them to maintain our schedule. In July three cases from CRCC were rescheduled to August due to the outbreak there, however individuals are currently seen four months prior to their release date. Therefore, if found releasable, they should have time to submit release plans to be transitioned in a time frame close to or adhering to their ERD.

### Question

How many cases are seen each quarter?

### Answer

The ISRB sees roughly 100 plus cases per quarter for release, which is consistent with cases prior to COVID.

### Question

Is ISRB seeing cases on a first come (submitted) first serve basis or are they looking at some cases having priority over others?

### Answer

ISRB hearings are held within timelines established in the statute.

## Comments/Closing

- Next informational call – 08/21/2020 at 2:00 PM