



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

May 13, 2020

TO: All DOC Staff

FROM: Stephen Sinclair, Secretary

SUBJECT: Governor's Directive 20-05, Freezing Hiring, Personal Services Contracts and Equipment Purchases

Earlier today, the Governor announced [Directive of the Governor 20-05, Freezing Hiring, Personal Services Contracts and Equipment Purchases](#) which goes into effect on May 18, 2020 for all agencies under his direction.

The hiring freeze does not apply to positions that directly impact public safety, are essential to the health and welfare activities of state government, generate revenue, are required to meet statutory mandates, or are related to the state's response to the pandemic.

At DOC, we had already instituted a partial hiring freeze and other cost saving measures on April 28, 2020. Within the next week, more information will be provided to Appointing Authorities on what will happen with any active, pending or anticipated recruitments and next steps, given the requirements the Office of Financial Management has put into place to support the Governor's directive.

Ensuring public safety by positively changing lives, DOC provides a critical service to the State of Washington and you are all part of that. As an essential government agency providing public safety, many of our positions will be exempt from this process.

I want to recognize that these are uncertain times and more challenges are ahead, but members of the Executive Strategy Team are committed to providing you with as much transparency as we can, as soon as we can.

Should you have more questions regarding this announcement please reach out to your supervisor, Appointing Authority or human resources.

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More information on the DOC response to COVID-19 can be found on the department website at: <https://doc.wa.gov/news/covid-19.htm>

Please take care of yourselves, your co-workers and those we impact.

SS:mo

cc: Human Resource Managers
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