



**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE  
SPRINGFIELD 62702

## **COVID-19 RESPONSE**

**JB PRITZKER**  
Governor

**ROB JEFFREYS**  
Director

### **Memorandum**

**To: Men and Women in Custody**

**From: Alyssa Williams, Chief of Programs and Support Services**

**Date: May 4, 2020**

**Subject: COVID-19 Update for Men and Women in Custody**

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The Illinois Department of Corrections is committed to providing you with information and transparency regarding the Department's COVID-19 (coronavirus) response.

As of May 4, 2020, the Department confirmed a total of 159 incarcerated individuals who have tested positive for the coronavirus – 124 at Stateville Correctional Center, 1 at Stateville NRC, 12 at Sheridan Correctional Center, 3 at Crossroads Adult Transition Center, 4 at Fox Valley Adult Transition Center, 1 at Pontiac Correctional Center, 9 at Hill Correctional Center, and 5 at North Lawndale Adult Transition Center. Twelve of those individuals, men incarcerated at Stateville, have succumbed to the disease. The Illinois National Guard have been assisting with healthcare at Stateville, Sheridan, and Hill Correctional Centers since early April.

Thanks to the efforts of our staff, the Illinois National Guard, and each of you a total of 144 incarcerated individuals have recovered – 119 at Stateville Correctional Center, 1 at Stateville NRC, 12 at Sheridan Correctional Center, 1 at Crossroads Adult Transition Center, 3 at Fox Valley Adult Transition Center, 1 at Pontiac Correctional Center, 2 at Hill Correctional Center, and 5 at North Lawndale Adult Transition Center.

There are staff who have tested positive for coronavirus at Sheridan, Stateville, Stateville NRC, Logan, Pontiac, Hill, Southwestern, Jacksonville, and Western Illinois Correctional Centers, Joliet Treatment Center, Kewanee Life Skills Re-Entry Center, and Fox Valley Adult Transition Center. Those staff are all quarantined at home. All staff who previously tested positive for



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coronavirus have recovered at North Lawndale and Crossroads Adult Transition Centers, Menard, Graham, and Danville Correctional Centers.

The Department is continuing with COVID-19 testing and anticipates positive cases to continue to occur in the weeks ahead, just as is predicted throughout Illinois and the United States. The Department's early decisions and interventions have helped to mitigate the spread of the virus at the institutional level. Continuing to implement the best practices suggested by experts in both security and healthcare, the Department is now requiring all incarcerated individuals to wear a mask as part of our Universal Source Control initiative.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend wearing a cloth face cover, or mask, by everyone who goes out in public. Incarceration and other congregant living facilities represent a unique situation where leaving one's assigned living location is equivalent to going out in public. Wearing the mask issued to you helps with universal source control efforts by preventing one of the primary means of coronavirus transmission.

Please continue doing your part to stay healthy by complying with all temperature checks, washing your hands and practicing social distancing. We understand the difficulties and stress that this unprecedented event causes and appreciate your patience. Please know the Department will continue to evaluate what measures need to be taken to battle this pandemic and keep the people who live and work in our facilities safe and healthy.