



The Illinois Department of Corrections

1301 Concordia Court, P.O. Box 19277 • Springfield, IL 62794-9277 • (217) 558-2200 TDD: (800) 526-0844

Dear Leader Durkin,

In an effort to prioritize the safety and health of our staff and those incarcerated within the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC), we have taken many steps to mitigate and flatten the curve of COVID-19. As we take these steps, IDOC is working closely with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and setting forth policies and procedures guided by IDPH. The Department is also utilizing procedures authorized by State law to lessen the impact of COVID-19 within our facilities.

With the onset of COVID-19, our pandemic influenza plan's infection control, essentials of quarantine and surge planning procedures were updated. IDOC has diligently worked to properly isolate and quarantine offenders who are symptomatic or test positive for COVID-19 in accordance with CDC and IDPH guidelines. Executive Order 2020-21 ensures that IDOC can temporarily place our most medically vulnerable offenders on medical furloughs if deemed appropriate for the individual offenders and public safety. The Department understands your public safety concerns, and as such has established a process that makes public safety a priority, while at the same time addressing the health needs of our population.

The Department's response to your requests for information are as follows:

- 1. A list containing the name of every inmate released under this policy change containing the following information and the crime for which each offender was sentenced to IDOC:**

In determining offenders who are appropriate for release, IDOC has not changed policies. The IDOC website has been updated with a list of individuals who have been awarded Earned Discretionary Sentence Credit (EDSC) or transferred to electronic detention (ED). The parameters for both EDSC and ED were established by the legislature. The list can be located on our website at the following link:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/idoc/Offender/Pages/CommunityNotificationofOffenderEarlyRelease.aspx>

The Department granted furloughs to 148 individuals housed within our Adult Transition Centers. We are working to update the IDOC website to reflect these furloughs.

- 2. The criminal history used in the analysis for the early release decision of each offender.**

IDOC reviews an offender's complete criminal history, prison disciplinary history, and their detailed risk assessment. IDOC also checks for outstanding warrants prior to awarding earned discretionary sentencing credit or placement on electronic detention.

3. What offenders would you accept the transfer of from county jails to IDOC facilities?

In an effort to ensure IDOC staff and offenders are protected as much as possible from the spread of COVID-19, the Governor issued an executive order to halt jail admissions except at the discretion of the Department. To ensure ongoing cooperation with county sheriffs, the Department meets with members of the Sheriff's Association on a weekly basis. These meetings include discussions of alternative arrangements. As IDOC plans for the coming weeks, we will rely on the Agency Medical Director as to when the Department can safely accept transfers from the county jails.

4. Are offenders being released on electronic monitoring? If so, are they eligible for the 12 hours of free movement policy that was recently changed by the Prisoner Review Board and IDOC?

Offenders who are released on electronic monitoring have not been given 12 hours movement. All parolees were given messages that they must curtail their movement due to COVID-19 and the Governor's Stay at Home order. The following message was relayed to parolees:

As a result of the COVID-19 coronavirus epidemic, and pursuant to the orders of the Governor and the Illinois Department of Public Health, movement orders for all parolees and releasees of the Department of Corrections are changed as follows, until further order of the Prisoner Review Board:

All parolees and releasees from the Department of Corrections shall follow the advice of medical professionals and public health officials regarding COVID-19.

This means that all parolees and releasees shall engage in social distancing and practice appropriate preventative actions, such as maintaining a safe distance six feet from others, regular hand-washing, and cleaning of surfaces. Parolees and releasees shall remain at their host sites and only travel from them for necessary purposes, such as reporting to a job site, attending meetings with DOC staff and/or attending legal proceedings.

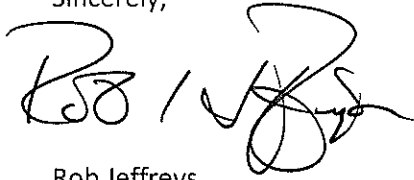
Concerns on hospital placement:

The Department, led by the Office of Health Services, continues to reach out to the healthcare facilities around the state to understand their capacity to provide care for our patients. In addition, alternative surge care plans are being established by the Department. These surge plans include the use of medical tents and reassignment of buildings to accommodate immediate needs. We continue to collaborate with multiple partners to ensure that our patients will be accommodated in emergency situations, while taking all appropriate steps to avoid overburdening critical access hospitals or individual health care facilities. Our facilities have been meeting with area hospitals, emergency medical service providers, IDPH and county departments of public health in order to ensure local healthcare facilities have adequate resources available to treat our population. It is our hope that the hospitals will treat the men and women in our custody the same as members of the general public who present to the hospital in need of acute medical care. The Department's infirmaries are not able to provide the ICU level of care often required by COVID-19 patients. The Department will continue to provide care to its fullest capabilities, but out of necessity will appropriately transfer patients when a higher level of care is required.

These are challenging times for all Illinoisans and the well-being of our employees and those incarcerated within IDOC is at the forefront of our response efforts. We will continue to work closely with state

healthcare professionals, healthcare facilities and our partners to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. We look forward to working with the General Assembly during this crisis and welcome any additional questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Jeffrey', written in a cursive style.

Rob Jeffrey
Acting Director