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Department of Corrections



Office Hours

Monday to Friday, 8 am to 5 pm

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Coronavirus Prevention

Modified Movement and Activities

Effective 4:30 p.m.. Friday, March 27, 2020 – To mitigate the possible spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) through DC Department of Corrections (DC DOC) facilities, the Department will move to modified movement and activities **effective immediately**.

For the safety of our workforce, residents, and contractors, DOC is implementing modified operations to minimize risk in our facilities, as much as practicable. This includes the cancellation of off-unit religious services, halting off-unit activities, and suspending barbering/cosmetology services.

All residents are being authorized for movements under the following conditions:

- Court (in-person and teleconference);
- Medical, mental health, and dental appointments;
- Work detail; and
- Legal visits/phone calls.

On-unit activities will continue, which includes groups, video visitation visits, phone calls, showers, and modified recreation. Modified recreation will include a reduction in out-of-cell time (minimum of 2.5 hours daily) to reduce the number of social contacts. Individual and small group religious services can continue on housing units. Medical is developing a plan to provide services on the units when appropriate. DOC is exploring opportunities to provide paper-based mental stimulation activities for residents such as books, word searches and crossword puzzles, Sudoku etc. The College and Career Readiness (CCR) division will continue to utilize virtual education tools available on the tablets as well as creating education packets for any of the population who are interested. The Programs and Case Management (PCM) division will be providing tablets and some paper-based programming, but no groups will be held by PCM staff.

Please continue to practice health and safety precautions to help keep our DOC facilities, staff, and residents safe and healthy. Follow the guidance below on how to reduce your risk of infection and slow its spread.

- Thoroughly wash your hands for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Sanitize your equipment.
- Follow the safety protocols in place at each of the DOC facilities.
- If you are sick, contact your healthcare provider and request sick leave through your supervisor.

Thank you for your continued commitment to serving our city and our neighbors.

For more information about COVID-19, visit:

<https://coronavirus.dc.gov/>

<https://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html/>

PLEASE READ AT ALL ROLL CALLS FOR SEVEN (7) CONSECUTIVE DAYS AND POST ON ALL APPROPRIATE BULLETIN BOARDS

For the latest information on the District Government's response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus), please visit www.coronavirus.dc.gov.

Staying in Communication with Your Loved Ones

The Department of Corrections (DOC) has suspended all in-person visits, programming, and volunteer activities at its facilities for the entirety of the Public Health Emergency. To help you stay in communication with your loved ones during this unprecedented time, DOC and Global Tel Link (GTL) will provide two free 5-minute phone calls and one free 15-minute video call per week beginning March 20, 2020 through April 27, 2020. Securus Technologies will also provide two free calls per inmate per week, at the Correctional Treatment Facility. Phone calls and video visitations will be provided as conditions and security allow.

Free Calls:

- Free call schedule dates will be provided on the following cycle:

- March 20-21, 2020
- March 22-28, 2020
- March 29-April 4, 2020
- April 5-11, 2020
- April 12-18, 2020
- April 19-25, 2020

- All persons incarcerated at the time free calls are offered will be provided two free 5-minute calls each week (Sunday-Saturday).
- You will not hear a free call message when making a call: only the called party will hear a message saying the call is provided at no charge before accepting the call.
- The two free calls will be applied to the first two calls you make each week (on the schedule above).
- If the free weekly calls are not used, no credit will be given.

Free Remote Visits:

For a thirty-day period, GTL agrees to provide each inmate at the DC Department of Corrections one free video visit per week, lasting up to fifteen minutes.

Video Visitation Center:

The Department will provide video visitation for inmates while in-person visitation is suspended. The VVC is located behind the Correctional Treatment Facility (1901 E Street, SE, Washington, DC 20009), on the ground level of The READY Center. All visits will continue to be scheduled via the Internet at <https://visitation.doc.dc.gov/app> or by calling 1 (888) 906-6394 or (202) 442-6155 (Tuesday through Saturday from 9 am-5 pm).

For more information on the District's response to COVID-19, visit www.coronavirus.dc.gov.

DC Department of Corrections Halts In-Person Visitations

UPDATE: Effective 11:59 p.m., Saturday, March 14, 2020 – In order to protect our residents, staff, and their families, the DC Department of Corrections is suspending all in-person visits, programming, and volunteer activities at its facilities for the entirety of the Public Health Emergency declared on March 11, 2020. The Department will provide video visitation for inmates while in-person visitation is suspended. While we recognize the significant impact this will have on inmates, their families, and loved ones, we are guided by medical experts who recommend social distancing measures as a proven method for preventing the spread of COVID-19.

As the Centers for Disease Control and DC Health guidelines and recommendations change, DOC will provide updated information to everyone in our facilities. For more information regarding the coronavirus, please visit www.coronavirus.dc.gov.

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DC Department of Corrections Puts in Place New Policies to Protect Residents, Visitors, and Staff from COVID-19 and Ensure Continued Visitations, Including Screening Upon Entry

The DC Department of Corrections takes the safety and well-being of DOC residents, visitors, staff, volunteers, and contractors extremely seriously.

As we continue to monitor COVID-19 in our community and follow guidance from DC Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, we are taking necessary steps to protect everyone in our facilities and ensure that residents can continue to safely receive visitors.

- Established Incident Command Team
- Medical Staff is staying vigilant and meeting with each housing unit and officer roll call
- Developed and implemented a strategic communications plan
- Enhanced cleaning efforts, especially within common areas
- Ordered additional cleaning and sanitation supplies, including protective gloves, masks and clothing for staff
- Initiated a two-hour cleaning of the entire facility (sanitizing and reminding people to wash their hands)
- Continuously partnering and sharing info with our criminal justice partners
- Sending daily COVID-19 emails to all employees to keep everyone informed

Effective March 11, 2020, in an effort to prevent the potential spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) throughout the District of Columbia Department of Corrections (DC DOC) facilities; Central Detention Facility (CDF) Correctional Treatment Facility (CTF), Central Cell Block (CCB), VVC (Video Visitation Center), The Center for Professional Development and Learning (CPDL), and The Ready Center, DOC will screen all staff and visitors (friends, family members, attorneys, contractors, volunteers, etc.) for the virus before they are allowed to enter the facilities. The screening will take place at the main entrances of the facilities. DOC staff and visitors will be asked if they are currently experiencing flu-like symptoms (cough, fever or shortness of breath), if they have come into direct contact with a person with the COVID-19 virus, or if they have recently traveled to country affected by the COVID-19 virus. If DOC staff responds “yes” to any of these questions, they will be sent home and advised to see their health care provider. If a visitor responds “yes” to any of these questions or exhibits obvious flu-like symptoms, they will be denied entry to the facilities.

We will continue to keep you up to date on all DOC efforts regarding the coronavirus. As CDC and DC Health guidelines and recommendations change, we will provide updated information to everyone in our facilities. Also, for more information regarding the coronavirus, please visit www.coronavirus.dc.gov.

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