

**TO: ALL CONCERNED**

**DATE: Wednesday, May 5th, 2021**

**RE: Town Hall Q & A**

As most of you may know, Superintendent Clark is out for surgery. He is doing well and is looking forward to getting back to work.

COVID vaccinations have started back up. Participation was not as good as it was previously, which was expected. We understand that there is not a lot of faith in the vaccines and people are a little leary of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine.

I was vaccinated with the same one that was offered here and I had very mild side effects. Just like with the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines, everyone has different side effects.

We are pretty much finished as of today with vaccinating all the Housing Units. J Unit was the last area and was completed this morning. There are still some inmates to be vaccinated in the RHU and that will continue tomorrow.

As far as individuals who have not yet been vaccinated and decide that they would like to be in the future, submit a sick call request to the Medical Department and they will schedule you to come up to receive the vaccine. As Superintendent Clark has said before, this is a personal choice.

Questions/concerns:

1. Why should I be vaccinated if I am going to be quarantined anyway?

We understand and have asked the same question. Moving forward verses vaccinated inmates/not vaccinated inmates; recovered inmates; how do we handle them; what do we do... We have a meeting today with the medical professionals in Central Office and will pass on more information regarding this when we can.

2. Cohort size increase.

This has been beneficial to everyone. The size of the Cohorts is determined by Central Office. It all depends on how many positives we start having, our vaccinated numbers, our waste water test results (levels currently non-detected). However we have had a few individuals test positive recently.

Another determining factor in how quickly we open up and the Cohort size is violence. Central Office looks at that. We are seeing a lot of fights and assaults at other facilities. Be mindful of that.

3. Wearing masks outside on the Walk if vaccinated.

Direction from Central Office and what we will continue to abide by is that we are to wear our masks. This is the same for vaccinated staff and inmates alike. If we are outside or inside, we need to be wearing our masks.

4. Can I work now that I am vaccinated?

This will all be determined by Central Office and once we know, we will pass this information on to population.

5. Do we need to wear masks during transports and in the Winter months?

As long as masks are mandated, we will continue to wear them.

6. If I am not vaccinated will I be moved to another Block?

There has been no discussion at all about moving vaccinated inmates with vaccinated inmates or non-vaccinated inmates with non-vaccinated inmates. We will continue to do what we are currently doing.

7. Barbershop

This will be determined by Central Office. We do have a Plan of Action and are ready to go as soon as we are given the OK.

8. CDC says with the Johnson & Johnson vaccine that you are considered fully vaccinated after 14 days, we are seeing 28 days here?

Central Office medical professionals' direction is that you are fully vaccinated with the Johnson & Johnson vaccine after 28 days. The first groups to receive the vaccine should be fully vaccinated around 5/5 -5/7, a lot of those individuals including my self would be considered fully vaccinated.

9. Ice Cream sales.

Tentatively ice cream sales are to start on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Barring anything happening, they will start then

10. Free Cable.

This has been extended through the end of June.

We understand the frustration of being vaccinated or considered recovered and still being quarantined. We are trying to get those answers for you, which prompted the meeting scheduled today. We want to slowly start implementing getting you back to your assigned duties. You have heard it before, but please try to be patient, and as soon as we can, we will get this information to you.

Thank you for your continued cooperation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'EJ Jones', written over a horizontal line.

Earl J. Jones, DSFM

EJJ/aae