

**TO:** All Inmates

**FROM:** George M. Little  
Secretary of Corrections



**DATE:** June 6, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Updated CDC Guidelines for Correctional Settings

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Recently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released updated guidelines for correctional settings. The Department has fully reviewed the updated guidance, and will begin altering our mitigation methods accordingly.

Effective Monday, June 13, 2022, enhanced COVID-19 prevention strategies shall be initiated when there is an identified outbreak, and increased facility level factors. Outbreak is defined as two or more positive inmates from the same housing unit (excluding cell or cube mates) who are linked to the same COVID positive source. Increased facility-level factors include an elevated wastewater reading, increased staff positivity rate, and community spread.

If it is determined that a housing unit or facility is experiencing both an identified outbreak and an increased facility factor, the following protections will occur:

1. Deep cleaning of the unit/facility.
2. Testing all inmates prior to transfer, release, & before and after ATA (court, medical appointments, etc.)
3. Testing symptomatic inmates.
4. Masking will be required for all staff and inmates while on the unit.
5. Masking will be required for those inmates on the affected unit while they participate in indoor activities (work, school, in-person visits, etc. ) while off the unit.
6. Daily wellness checks for inmates on the unit.

We understand that the thought of masking or additional mitigation strategies is unwelcome news. Although our COVID cases are down, and our vaccination rate remains high, we must continue to be vigilant when an outbreak does occur. We have successfully managed COVID until now, and we must continue to adjust when necessary.

All of you have done an incredible job of adjusting, when necessary, and we ask for your continued patience as we implement the new measures.

As a reminder, COVID vaccines and boosters are the best protection against COVID, and we encourage all of you to receive regular boosters when eligible.

I appreciate your continued support. If you have any questions, please contact your unit team for assistance.