

Nancy Dahlstrom
Commissioner



Department of
Corrections

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STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Department of Corrections Takes Additional Steps to Protect Inmates & Staff

3/23/2020 (Anchorage) – The Department of Corrections continues to take necessary steps to protect inmates and employees from Coronavirus (COVID-19). Effective tomorrow, 3/24/2020, DOC will be closing institutional lobbies to the public and screening all institutional staff statewide. This includes temperature checks prior to the start of every shift. Additionally, inmates will be screened prior to transfer when being moved from one facility to another.

These additional protocols are being implemented to protect the health and wellbeing of inmates and staff statewide. “DOC facilities are, by nature, congregate settings. Therefore, they present challenges that must be aggressively addressed in order to make sure everyone inside the facility remains healthy.”

Further, with the apparent community transmission beginning to occur, the Department of Corrections is closing all institutional lobbies to the public. As a result, DOC facilities will no longer be accepting in-person bail and contributions to Offender Trust Account (OTA) funds. Bail should be paid either at the Courthouse or mailed to the institution with a money order or certified check. Contributions to OTA funds should also be mailed to the institution with a money order or certified check. Both items should clearly state the individuals name and offender number.

DOC will continue to reevaluate all protocols and procedures. Additional protocols may be implemented as the situation warrants.

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