

COVID-19 Update - July 06, 2020

Hi all-

Happy Monday! I hope everyone was able to find time to celebrate the holiday this past weekend. We'll get right to it.

Mass Testing Results: We received the rest of the results from last Wednesday's mass testing event. In total, 342 samples were submitted. 6 returned positive, 333 were negative, and 3 are being resubmitted. The 6 individuals who tested positive are asymptomatic. Our next mass testing event at ISCC will take place on Wednesday. Outside of the mass testing results, we've had no other people in custody develop symptoms, require testing through the ID NOW instrument or test positive for COVID-19 since last week.

We've received a number of questions about what we're doing with the test information and what are we doing with the people who test positive. The answer is that it depends on where they are living and whether or not they are exhibiting symptoms. First and foremost, the biggest thing the testing information does is allow us to separate people who test positive from others. Regardless of whether someone lives in a 2-man cell or an open bunk living area, our first objective is to separate positives from negatives. In an open bunk setting, that means removing the positive individual to a separate area. In the case of a celled living area, we want to separate the positives from negatives, but we have more options in that environment to cohabitate positives, quarantine in place, and protect those who tested negative. The next step is to allow medical need to dictate placement. Someone exhibiting symptoms that requires medical care will be placed in a designated medical area and may even be hospitalized if they require a level of care that exceeds the medical capabilities of the facility. Asymptomatic patients may be co-located together in an area to await the completion of their medical quarantine and be monitored for the development of any symptoms.

While we are proactively taking temperatures of the entire population in the S. Boise complex, units on "Medical Quarantine" receive enhanced medical screening daily. This is particularly important for all patients with COVID-19 because of how differently it can present in both symptom type and severity.

Staff COVID Testing: Over the course of the weekend and today, we had 5 additional staff test positive for COVID-19. That brings our total of staff testing positive to 45. Anyone who may have had close contact with any of these individuals is being contacted by HR.

We have a number of staff who have been directed to quarantine or have tested positive for COVID-19. Attached to this email is a helpful 2-pager from the CDC that offers some valuable information about how to take care of yourself and prevent spreading the virus.

Staff Mass Testing: Slight change of plans from what I announced last week. Instead of the first event taking place tomorrow, the first staff mass testing event will take place on Thursday, July

09, at ISCC. ISCC staff will be receiving more information. Through the partnership with Saltzer Health, we will conduct staff testing events every Tuesday and Thursday in the S. Boise complex until it is no longer needed. Stay tuned for more information.

That's all for tonight. Thank you again for you all your hard work to protect yourself and others. Stay safe.

Thanks-
Josh