

Hi all-

Following the guidance of Idaho's public health experts, Governor Brad Little issued a statewide stay-home order today for all Idahoans. The order directs all residents of Idaho to self-isolate and stay and work from home as much as possible unless you work in healthcare, public safety (that's us) or an identified essential business. The stay home order is in effect until April 15<sup>th</sup>. I've attached a flyer with additional information about the order.

Here's what this means for IDOC:

**Mandatory Telecommuting:** The Governor took the step of issuing the stay-home order because there's evidence of community spread. We have to do our part to make sure our important work continues uninterrupted while taking steps to keep all of us safe. I'm mandating all staff who have the ability to telecommute to do so effective Monday, March 30. I've directed the division leadership to develop schedules for their offices with the specific goal of minimizing the number of people in the office at any one time. I absolutely understand how difficult it can be for some people to work from home, but I can't overstate the importance of keeping all of you safe and minimizing exposure. There will be more specific communication to those impacted in the next two days to work out the logistics.

**We're open for business:** Our Prisons, CRC's, district offices, worksites and central office remain open for business. Please report for work as normal. Tomorrow we'll be pushing out some documentation for all staff noting the essential nature of the work you perform. More details to come.

**Modified Restricted Status Extended:** In accordance with the Governor's directive, we also are extending the restrictions in place for visiting and volunteer services. Visiting and volunteer services will remain closed at least through April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Phase 3 Preparations on track:** As I noted yesterday, phase 3 preparations are on track. Phase 3 is triggered when a confirmed case of COVID-19 is discovered in our system. A special thanks to Bret Kimmel and Bob Morlan for their efforts to requisition important supplies. They were able to secure additional temporary medical structures and necessary supplies ensuring our ability respond appropriately should the need arise.

**We're 8 for 8:** We've submitted 8 samples for COVID-19 testing. All results have come back NEGATIVE.

I have a number of additional updates to provide, but I'll get those to you tomorrow. In the meantime, I'll let you process the Governor's announcement today. As you think about what the stay-home order means for you and your family – and the public health crisis necessitating such an order – please know this: what you do matters! It mattered before, but never more so than now. Please continue to take care of yourself and each other.

Thanks-  
Josh