

COVID-19 Update - June 30, 2020

Hi all-

It's been another fast and furious day with lots to report. My apologies for the late hour, but I've been holding off to give you the most up to date information possible. This is a long one, so hang in there with me.

Additional Positive Cases at ISCC Confirmed: Late last night and early this morning, we had 4 additional positive cases identified within the incarcerated population at ISCC. All 4 individuals presented with symptoms and were confirmed positive with the use of the ID NOW instrument. They have been moved to medical and their respective units are on medical quarantine. That brings the total to 9 positive COVID-19 cases at ISCC. Additionally, we are expecting the VA to give us the complete results of the mass testing from E Block tomorrow morning.

Changes in Test Result Reporting: We're in the process of changing how we report testing results on our website. In addition to reporting the number of tests, number of tests pending, and number of positives, we also are going to break out the positives by symptomatic and asymptomatic and include another column for patients who have recovered. That distinction between people who are presenting with symptoms and those who are asymptomatic is important. Some other correctional systems who have implemented mass testing have identified an asymptomatic positive rate of about 20-25% of those tested, and a large percentage of that group never experience symptoms or complications from the virus.

More Mass Testing at ISCC: Tomorrow morning two teams made up of Corizon and ISCC staff will be collecting samples from all of our residents in the H Block. Those samples will be sent to the VA for processing and we hope to get the results back by Friday.

Staff Testing: We are getting closer to being able to provide point in time COVID-19 testing for staff. While the ID NOW instrument is helpful when people present with symptoms, PCR testing is appropriate for those who may have a lower viral load. Our goal is to make the testing process easy and accessible for staff. Today we identified two providers that have the ability to provide on-site services and we are working to get staff testing set up as soon as possible.

Staff COVID-19 Cases: Today, 6 additional IDOC staff tested positive for COVID-19; 4 of the 6 staff were on quarantine because of exposure to a known positive. This brings the total number of IDOC staff positive for COVID-19 to 28. Anyone who may have had direct contact with any of the individuals testing positive has been notified.

Operational Changes: I wanted to highlight some statewide and S. Boise Complex-specific operational changes. For all of IDOC, all movement into and within our system will be temporarily halted tomorrow. This change will not stop scheduled releases from our custody. Everyone being released will be tested. Those releasing on parole will complete pre-release paperwork prior to leaving and will be given special reporting instructions based on the results of their test. **Additionally, EVERYONE living and working in an IDOC facility is now required to wear a mask.**

Some additional proactive measures are being implemented in the S. Boise Complex. Starting tomorrow morning, the entire S. Boise Complex will be placed on Level 3 full secure status. We will also begin

proactive temperature checks for people in custody working food service or other critical compound jobs and work towards proactively taking everyone's temperature at least daily in the units. By Sunday, all S. Boise facilities will move to 12 hour shifts, and implement a new staffing pattern that "cohorts" specific staff with assigned units to minimize exposure across housing units.

According to our emergency response plans, the move to Level 3 is normally triggered by a positive test in the population in custody. While that hasn't yet happened in any facility other than ISCC, we've learned through the contact tracing process that the movement allowed during Level 2 operations makes it more difficult to minimize transmission across units. We will continue to systematically conduct mass testing events, and as noted earlier, are preparing testing events for all staff in the S. Boise Complex. These measures are designed to significantly minimize transmission if any positive cases are identified.

Attached is a FAQ to help people understand what secure status is and the importance of some of these operational changes. We'll be posting it to the website and our social media platforms.

I know how tough this past week has been for staff, and I can't thank all of you enough for how you've come together. The people in our custody, especially at ISCC, and their loved ones have been weighing heavy on my mind as well. We're going to keep working hard every day to get ease restrictions as soon as conditions will safely allow, and we'll keep pursuing creative ways to keep the people in our custody connected to their loved ones.

Please take care of yourself, and stay safe!

Thanks-
Josh