



News Release

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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Penitentiary on modified operations

Oregon State Penitentiary (OSP) was placed on lockdown Friday, August 5, following a series of fights between inmates. The institution is currently running on modified operations and visitation is cancelled until further notice.

At approximately 2:30 p.m., multiple fights broke out prompting OSP officials to place the institution on lockdown. Additional fights occurred into the evening and the following morning.

A total of 155 inmates were placed in special housing for their involvement in the altercations. Five inmates required outside medical treatment for non-life threatening injuries. No staff injuries were reported.

An ongoing investigation is being conducted to determine the cause of the incidents.

OSP is Oregon's only maximum-security prison, located in Salem, and houses over 2,000 male inmates. OSP is surrounded by a 25-foot-high wall with 10 towers. The facility has multiple special housing units including death row, disciplinary segregation, behavioral health, intermediate care housing, and an infirmary (with hospice) with 24-hour nursing care. OSP participates in prison industries with Oregon Corrections Enterprises including the furniture factory, laundry, metal shop, and contact center. It provides a range of correctional programs and services including education, work-based education, inmate work crews, and pre-release services. OSP was established in 1866 and, until 1959, was Oregon's only prison.

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