TO: All DOC Staff

FROM: Director Colette S. Peters SUBJECT: DOC Team Message

To the DOC Team,

Our first positive COVID-19 adult in custody was reported at SCI last evening, and the first DOC team member earlier this week. Since then, we have had two more team members test positive. We have no doubt more positive tests for AICs and employees are inevitable in the coming days and weeks. As people are tested and test results are returned, we will provide updated numbers on the DOC website.

Thank you for reinforcing good hygiene practices among AICs and ourselves, intensifying cleaning and disinfection practices, and implementing social distancing strategies to the best of our ability. It is critical to stem the spread of COVID-19 virus in all our locations.

We've communicated what steps to take while at work, but what about after work and before you go home? We know you are all worried about potential exposure and taking contagions home to your families. We recommend you practice infection control after shifts such as removing and washing clothing as soon as you get home, showering, and separating of living spaces if necessary and possible. If members of your family have underlying health conditions, are over the age of 65, or are otherwise considered high risk, we recommend you reach out to your health care provider for specific guidance.

With more positive COVID-19 cases, it is imperative you scan your identification when you enter the facility. We need to account for everyone coming inside to determine contact and exposure and ensure thorough contact tracing.

With care and diligence, we can stay healthy while still coming to work. Know that we need our dedicated workforce now more than ever. We know you are putting yourself at risk every time you walk in the door, and we couldn't be more grateful and proud.

We have posted COVID-19 material on our <u>website</u> and the <u>Information Hub</u>. Please visit these resources if you have any questions or you would like additional information. Also, please email <u>DL DOC Emergency Preparedness</u> with any questions.

Take care of yourselves and stay healthy.

Sincerely,

Colette S. Peters

Director

Heidi Steward Deputy Director

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