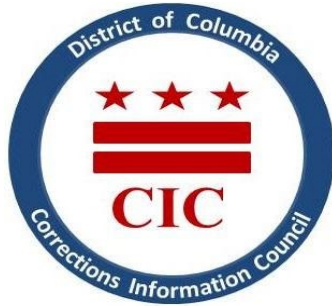


# District of Columbia Corrections Information Council



## DC Department of Corrections Inspection Report

September 30, 2021



## District of Columbia Corrections Information Council

Charles Thornton, Board Chair  
Katharine A. Huffman, Board Member  
Calvin Woodland Jr., Board Member  
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### *About the District of Columbia Corrections Information Council*

The District of Columbia Corrections Information Council (CIC) is an independent oversight body mandated by the United States Congress and the Council of the District of Columbia to inspect, monitor, and report on the conditions of confinement in correctional facilities where residents from the District of Columbia are incarcerated. This includes facilities operated by the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), the District of Columbia Department of Corrections (DOC), and private contractors.

The CIC reports its observations and recommendations to the District of Columbia Representative in the United States Congress, the Mayor of the District of Columbia, the Council of the District of Columbia, the District of Columbia Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice, the Director of the BOP, the Director of the DOC, and the community.

Although the CIC does not handle individual complaints or provide legal representation or advice, individuals are still encouraged to contact the CIC. Reports, concerns, and general information from incarcerated DC residents and the public are very important to the CIC, and they greatly inform our inspection schedule, recommendations, and reports. However, unless expressly permitted by the individuals or required by law, names and identifying information of residents, corrections staff not in leadership, and members of the general public will be kept anonymous and confidential.

### **DC Corrections Information Council**

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# Executive Summary

## Central Detention Facility Profile

**Dates of Inspection:** May 4, 2021  
**Location:** SE, Washington, DC  
**Security Level:** Minimum, Medium, Maximum

**Rated Capacity:** 2,164  
**Population on 5/4/2021:** 1,013  
**Resident-to-Staff Ratio:** 2.75 to 1

## Central Cell Block Profile

**Date of Inspection:** May 5, 2021  
**Location:** 400 Indiana Ave, NW, Washington, DC  
**Average Length of Stay:** 24 hours

**Rated Capacity:** 107  
**Population on 5/5/2021:** 26  
**Number of Cells:** 57

## Key Findings - CDF

The CIC highlights the following Central Detention Facility (CDF) conditions:

- Starting April 30, 2021, the DOC allows two hours of indoor recreation in addition to one hour of outside recreation. Previously, it was one hour of indoor recreation.
- 485 inmates have received both shots of the Moderna vaccine for COVID-19, and 601 inmates have received the first shot.<sup>1</sup>
- 70% of cells at the CDF are single capacity at this time.
- There are currently no positive cases of COVID-19 at CDF.
- Administrative housing unit residents who participated in Ramadan were not timely receiving food.
- There are no inmate grievance forms in administrative housing unit North 1.
- There is no air conditioning.
- Barbering and cosmetology services have resumed for residents with upcoming jury trials.

<sup>1</sup> Numbers are expected to increase. These figures describe the vaccine progress at the time of the CIC inspection.

## Key Findings - CCB

The CIC highlights the following Central Cell Block (CCB) conditions:

- CCB is understaffed; there are 8 officers on each shift.
- There are three handicapped cells in CCB, but only one is operable.
- There is regular flooding at CCB, so staff has to constantly use a sump pump.
- There are no mattresses at CCB. Inmates sleep on steel bunks.
- There is no definitive timeline for maintenance to perform repairs.
- CCB does not accept women who use wheelchairs.
- There are two video screens setup for inmates to virtually appear in court, but only one works.
- If CCB reaches maximum capacity before the DC Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) brings newly arrested individuals, it will not admit those individuals and they are returned to MPD.
- Transgender or gender nonconforming people in custody at CCB may choose housing on a tier with either men or women.
- Medical personnel are on-site to address mental or physical health needs of arrestees.

## Recommendations - CDF

Based on the inspection of the CDF, the CIC makes the following recommendations:

- The DOC should assure that all restrictive housing units have access to Internal Grievance Procedure (IGP) forms.
- The DOC should assure that all inmates who participate in a particular religious observance receive meals in a timely fashion.
- The DOC should assure that regular maintenance is performed inside of cells and showers in restrictive housing units.
- The DOC should repair the air conditioning system.
- The DOC should increase the number of staff members.
- The DOC should ensure that restrictive housing units have adequate cleaning supplies.
- The DOC should ensure that all inmates in restrictive housing units have a mattress.

## Recommendations - CCB

Based on the inspection of the CCB, the CIC makes the following recommendations:

- The DOC should assure that both screens used for court are in working condition.
- The DOC should ensure that all cells at CCB are operable, including the handicapped cells.
- The DOC should hire more staff.
- The DOC should repair the source of the regular flooding.

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## Introduction

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The DC Department of Corrections (DOC) operates two jail facilities: the Correctional Treatment Facility (CTF), and the Central Detention Facility also known as the DC Jail (CDF). The facilities are located adjacent to one another in southeast Washington, D.C. The DOC also operates the Central Cell Block (CCB) which is located at 300 Indiana Avenue Northwest, Washington, D.C. This inspection covered the CDF and CCB.

The CDF houses male residents, a majority of whom are held pending adjudication of a criminal case or serving a sentence for a misdemeanor offense. Other CDF residents include those held on United States Parole Commission (USPC) warrants, those awaiting transfer to the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), and those held due to a writ or hold - typically awaiting transfer to another jurisdiction.

The CCB houses male and female residents who have been arrested and are awaiting to see a judge for an initial appearance to determine whether they will be released from the CCB or sent to the CDF to await further proceedings with their criminal case.

Throughout the 2020 fiscal year, the District of Columbia was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Consequently, the CIC was unable to physically go into DOC facilities due to health concerns, but was still able to communicate with residents via written correspondence, phone calls, and family members. In fiscal year 2021, the CIC was able to perform a site visit and talk to staff and residents face to face, interviewing them about their conditions and experiences in custody and at work<sup>2</sup>. Following the site visit, CIC conducted its onsite inspection of CDF on May 4, 2021, and CCB on May 5, 2021. For a complete explanation of the report methodology, see Appendix A: Methodology.

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<sup>2</sup> See DOC Site Visit Report, March 18, 2021 at [cic.dc.gov](http://cic.dc.gov).

## Facility Overviews

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As part of the DOC inspection, the CIC toured areas of both the CDF and CCB, including restrictive housing units where the CIC received resident concerns. The names of the units toured, information about the population and staff on each unit visited, as well as a brief description of daily life on each unit can be found in the chart below.

### CDF Inspection Summary

<b>North 1</b>	
<p><b>Unit Capacity:</b> 144</p> <p><b>Population May 4:</b> 74</p> <p><b>Unit Population:</b> Residents who have been found guilty of a disciplinary infraction or pending adjustment board review.</p> <p><b>Unit Staff:</b> Corrections officers; case management rotation.</p>	<p>North 1 is a restrictive housing unit designed for individuals who have been found guilty of a disciplinary infraction or pending review of the adjustment board to determine whether or not they should remain in restrictive housing or return to general population. During the CIC visit, the roof of the shower area was caving in, potentially exposing residents to falling debris. The drains were flooded, empty cells were flooded, and residents did not have access to inmate grievance procedure forms (IGP). Some residents did not have mattresses.</p>
<b>South 1</b>	
<p><b>Unit Capacity:</b> 80</p> <p><b>Population :</b>52</p> <p><b>Unit Population:</b> Residents who have been found guilty of a disciplinary infraction or have been placed on lockdown for administrative reasons.</p> <p><b>Unit Staff:</b> Corrections officers; case manager rotation.</p>	<p>South 1, is a restrictive housing unit housing for residents who have been found guilty of a disciplinary infraction or have been placed in restrictive housing for some other reason by the DOC administration. Residents mentioned not having adequate cleaning supplies for their cells and only receiving showers twice a week. The roofs of some of the showers were caving in. Residents in this unit do not have access to education or entertainment tablets.</p>
<b>South West 2</b>	
<p><b>Unit Capacity:</b> 93</p> <p><b>Population May 4:</b> 52</p> <p><b>Unit Population:</b> Residents who have higher custody levels based upon pending cases or their institutional history.</p> <p><b>Unit Staff:</b> Corrections officers and case manager.</p>	<p>South West 2 is a general population unit. Residents now receive indoor recreation for two hours, and outside recreation for one hour. According to residents, if they go outside they do not have the opportunity to use the phone that day. There are twelve phones on this unit, but only five were operable at the time of inspection. There were 65 American Prison Data Systems (APDS) tablets, and 15 Global Tel Link (GTL) tablets in this unit. The APDS tablets are used for educational and program purposes, and the GTL tablets are used for entertainment purposes and to communicate with loved ones. Residents reported that medical staff does not respond to sick call requests within the required 24-hour time period<sup>3</sup>, but medical care is good once they are evaluated by a physician or nurse.</p>

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<sup>3</sup> See DC Department of Corrections Inmate Handbook pg.8

### Outside Recreation Area

**Outside Recreation Capacity:** 50

**Recreation Staff:** Corrections officers.

At the time of this inspection, outside recreation was canceled during weekdays from 6 AM to 2 PM due to construction on the recreation yard; residents are still able to participate in outside recreation during the evening hours if there is adequate staff and good weather. Outside recreation is supposed to occur for one hour a week per housing unit, but due to construction and staffing - the implementation of the outside recreation schedule has been inconsistent .

## CCB Inspection Summary

### Central Cell Block

**Maximum Capacity:** 107

**Population May 5:** 27

**Unit Population:** Men, Women, and LGBTQ residents who have been arrested and are awaiting an initial appearance in court.

**Unit Staff:** Corrections officers and Unity medical staff.

There are 57 cells in CCB. Three of those cells can accommodate men in wheelchairs, but two of the accessible cells were inoperable. Men are housed on the first floor and women are housed on the second floor. Individuals who identify as transgender may choose housing on either floor. There are also two cells with observation cameras for people at a high risk of hurting themselves or someone else.

There is generally no bedding or mattresses at CCB; residents lay down on metal bunks. Only women who are pregnant receive mattresses. The food is provided by Holder Enterprises and is the same for breakfast, lunch, and dinner (sandwich and water or juice). The air conditioning is controlled by the building. On the date of inspection, CCB was extremely hot. There is also a flooding problem. Staff uses a sump pump to try to resolve the issue, but the flooding continues.

There are eight DOC staff members on every shift at the CCB. Once an individual is admitted, staff fills out a fifteen-question assessment intake form<sup>4</sup>. These questions assist staff in finding the appropriate cell placement, especially regarding physical or mental health needs. Each person is seen by Unity Health medical staff upon arrival. There are two video conference setups for residents to virtually appear in court. Currently, only one of the setups works. Video court starts at 1:30 PM and ends at 6 PM, Monday through Friday. There is no video court for individuals in custody for the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. Those residents participate in court via telephone.

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<sup>4</sup> See appendix



## Operational Findings

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The following section highlights aspects of DOC operations, which may be department-wide or specific to the CDF or CCB. These findings relate to the daily operations and functions of the facility, with particular focus on the perception of residents and the treatment they receive. The information in this section was primarily gathered during interviews and correspondences with residents throughout the 2020-2021 fiscal year, discussions with DOC executive staff, and discussions with facility staff during the tour. Their comments and concerns are noted in the following sections:

### Restrictive Housing Units

The CIC toured two restrictive housing units at the CDF and interviewed several residents regarding multiple issues of concern. On May 4, 2021, the CIC toured Restrictive Housing Units North 1 and South 1. The showers in both units were filthy and had holes in the roof of the showers. Residents mentioned that when they are taking showers, the debris and water from the showers above leak onto them. There was also a problem with the drain system causing flooding in the shower area.

In both housing units, residents complained of not receiving their disciplinary reports within 48 hours, and some complained that they were not seeing the adjustment board within seven business days as dictated by DOC policy<sup>5</sup>.

In unit North 1, there were two residents who were in the unit for 36 hours and still did not have a mattress, resulting in them sleeping on a steel bunk. Additionally, there were no inmate grievance procedure (IGP) forms in this unit.

Residents in North 1 and South 1 who were participating in Ramadan communicated that they were not receiving their food on time, and when the food was finally served - there were no liquids. Residents reported being told by staff to drink water out of the sink, some of which contained a green mold-like substance.

Residents also reported being housed next to empty cells that were flooding. They stated that water from the adjacent flooding cells was entering their cells, and correctional staff was not providing residents with the materials necessary to clear the water. Residents reported placing their underclothes under their doors as an attempt to stop the water from entering their cells. Residents were not given new underclothes in exchange for the ones that they used to try to prevent water from entering their cells.

### *CIC Recommendations*

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- CIC recommends that the DOC perform appropriate maintenance on cells and showers in restrictive housing units that complies with appropriate health and safety standards.

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<sup>5</sup> See DC Department of Corrections Program Manual, Inmate Disciplinary and Administrative Housing Procedures, 5300.11 b.

- CIC recommends that individuals participating in religious observances receive their meals at the same time as their counterparts in general population.
- CIC recommends that IGP forms are present in all restrictive housing units.

## General Population Unit South West 2

The CIC visited the general population housing unit South West 2, and spoke with staff and residents about the living conditions within the CDF during the Medical Stay-in-Place<sup>6</sup>. Residents communicated that requests for medical assistance are delayed and untimely, but once medical staff responds - the treatment is good.

As of Monday, May 3, 2021, the DOC adjusted their movement restrictions in order to allow residents more freedom of movement. Previously, residents were only allowed out of their cells one hour a day. As a result of the increased vaccination rates within the DOC and District of Columbia communities, DOC residents are now allowed out of their cells for two hours a day, with an additional hour of outside recreation once a week.

The CIC observed twelve phones within this housing unit, but only five were operable. There were 65 APDS tablets available in this housing unit. These tablets allow residents to participate in educational programs. There were also 15 GTL tablets that allow residents to communicate with their families via text or phone for a fee.<sup>7</sup> There is also entertainment available on these tablets for residents to watch movies, documentaries, and listen to music. Both tablets are available to the population from 12 PM to 12 AM.

In accordance with CDC guidelines for social distancing and the DOC medical stay-in-place, the majority of cells within this unit housed only one occupant. Some of the residents complained of not having hot water in their cells.

### *CIC Recommendations*

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- CIC recommends that DOC ensure all cells within the housing unit have hot water.
- CIC recommends that maintenance be performed on the seven phones that were inoperable in this housing unit.
- CIC recommends that DOC ensure residents are seen at sick call within 24 hours of submitting a request for medical assistance.

## Outside Recreation

Beginning April 30, 2021, the DOC began to implement outside recreation activities to the residents in their custody. Due to COVID-19 restrictions and the medical stay-in-place, the DOC has been

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<sup>6</sup> See Appendix for a detailed DOC memo regarding Medical Stay-In Place restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic.

<sup>7</sup> See DOC memo pg. 4, Access to Family and Friends, in appendix

providing one hour of outside recreation in small groups. Everyone can participate in outside recreational activities, except those who are in restrictive housing units.

Generally, units of fewer than 100 residents go to outside recreation in two sections. The maximum number of persons on the yard at any given time is 50. Only the large recreation yard at the CDF is used at this time.

At the time of inspection, the recreation yard at CDF was under construction from 6 AM to 2 PM, Monday through Friday. However, residents are still able to participate in outside recreation during the evening hours if there is enough staff present at the facility and the weather permits.

Beginning May 15, 2021, the DOC plans to expand outdoor recreation to a minimum of 1.5 hours a week for each housing unit. DOC will review further increases as COVID restrictions ease and vaccinations increase.

### *CIC Recommendations*

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- CIC recommends the DOC continue to increase the outside recreation time available to residents.

### **Medical Stay in Place/COVID-19 Restrictions**

The DOC has begun to adjust COVID-19 restrictions and the medical stay-in-place that was established at the beginning of the pandemic.

As of the date of this inspection, there were no positive COVID-19 cases within the DOC, and 70% of residents were housed in single cells. Four hundred eighty-five residents had been fully vaccinated (with a 2-shot Moderna vaccination), and 601 residents had received a first shot, with the second shot either pending or the resident was released. All staff members and residents have been offered the Moderna vaccine, and Unity Health Care is administering the vaccine.

By May 17, 2021, DOC will allow for in-person education by DCPS in classrooms, and College and Career Readiness (CCR) will resume in-person educational instruction. Additionally, residents still have access to the ADPS tablets for educational, vocational, and social programs and services. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the DOC had just over 300 APDS tablets to provide additional educational, vocational, and social programs to residents. In the summer of 2020, DOC was able to obtain and distribute an additional 1,000 tablets to ensure that programs and services were able to continue despite COVID-19 restrictions<sup>8</sup>.

DOC plans to resume video visitation in June of 2021, and to make more phones available in the housing units, so residents can communicate more with their families and friends. Residents will still have access to the GTL tablets as well.

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<sup>8</sup> See DOC memo pg.3, Access to Education and Programs, in appendix.

During the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the DOC implemented video court setups. The DOC operates 10 video hearing spaces designed to accommodate virtual hearings for the United States District Court for the District of Columbia and the Superior Court for the District of Columbia. Video court appearances will continue until the courts are able to fully provide in-person court appearances for DOC residents. Upon resumption of in-person hearings, staff utilized for video hearing purposes will be able to return to transporting residents to court and other duties.

The DOC explained to CIC staff that it will continue to follow DC Department of Health (DOH) and CDC guidelines, as well as comply with its U.S. District Court order to ensure the health and well-being of all its residents and staff. Every Thursday, DOC staff meet with DOH staff to further discuss ideas of how the facility can gradually go back to normal operations without compromising the safety and well-being of staff and residents.

### *CIC Recommendations*

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- CIC recommends that the DOC continue to monitor the population and safely progress towards normal operations.

## Central Cell Block (CCB)

DC Metropolitan Police Department used to operate the CCB. It is now under the control of DOC and severely understaffed. Staff at CCB stated that there are eight staff members on each shift, along with a doctor or nurse on site from Unity Health Care. When CCB was under the control of MPD, there were between 15 and 20 staff members on each shift.

There are 57 cells at CCB with a maximum capacity of 107 individuals. Of the 57 cells, six were inoperable, including two of the three handicapped cells. Two cells have cameras inside of them to allow staff to observe individuals at a high risk for harming themselves or others. The bottom tier is reserved for men, and the top tier is reserved for women. Transgender individuals may choose housing on either tier. The CCB does not provide mattresses for individuals in their custody; the only exception is for women who are pregnant. Otherwise, individuals sleep on steel bunks. At the time of the CIC inspection, there were 26 individuals held at CCB.

When individuals are brought to CCB, they are immediately temperature screened. If their temperature is high, MPD will take them to the hospital as a COVID-19 safety precaution. If individuals pass the temperature screen, staff will complete a 15 question assessment. These questions assist staff in finding the appropriate cell placement, especially regarding physical and mental health needs. Each individual is also evaluated by Unity Health Care medical staff, who is always on site. Individuals who are sent out to the hospital and test positive for COVID-19 are placed in a cell alone after returning to CCB.

When CCB is at full capacity, any additional individuals who are arrested are not accepted and must return to the police district from which they originated.

CCB does not accept women who use wheelchairs. If a woman using a wheelchair is arrested, she will not be admitted to CCB, and MPD must keep the woman in their custody at the precinct from which she originated.

On Mondays, CCB shuts down intake to thoroughly clean. This process usually takes about two hours. Cells are cleaned daily, but Monday is used for a thorough cleaning of the facility. Afterwards, it resumes admitting individuals through the intake process. If space permits, everyone is housed in a single cell.

There is a problem with flooding in the CCB due to issues with the drainage system. To fix this problem, CCB has been utilizing a sump pump; however, this pump has had to be replaced several times, and there are still issues with flooding toilets and other areas. The temperature can get extremely hot in CCB, and there are no fans. Staff explained that the air conditioning and heat is controlled by the building.

The CIC noticed several areas that required maintenance, specifically the issues with drainage and inoperable cells, and the video court setup that was broken. CCB staff mentioned that they submitted requests for maintenance repairs several times, but nothing has been done and all they can do is wait.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, individuals in CCB custody are not going to court physically. There are two screens where individuals can attend court while at CCB, but only one is operable. These two screens were designed for those DC Superior Court individuals. Individuals awaiting DC District Court hearings participate via phone. Video court starts at 1:30 PM and concludes at 6 PM. Cases that are “no papered” (not prosecuted further) do not require video court appearances. Instead, CCB will receive paperwork from pre-trial services notifying them that the case has been “no papered” and the individual should be released.

Individuals in CCB custody are fed the same meal for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, which consists of a sandwich and water or juice. The average stay in CCB custody is approximately 24 hours. Afterwards, the individual should either be released or sent to the CDF pending further proceedings with their case.

### *CIC Recommendations*

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- CIC recommends that the DOC complete all necessary maintenance.
- CIC recommends that the DOC hire more staff for the CCB.

## Methodology

In accordance with D.C. Code 24-101.01(d)(1)(2019), the Corrections Information Council (CIC) sent a request to tour the Department of Corrections (DOC) facilities, the Central Detention Facility (CDF), and the Central Cell Block (CCB). The CIC conducted an onsite inspection of the CDF on May 4, 2021, and an onsite inspection of CCB on May 5, 2021. The CIC representatives on this inspection consisted of Board Chair Charles Thornton, and Program Analysts Kareem McCraney, Nailah Bynoe-Seabron, and Patricia Marks.

On May 4, 2021, the inspection process at the CDF included an opening session with Assistant Warden Landerkin, tours of the facility grounds conducted by the Captain, interviews with staff and residents, and closing remarks with Assistant Warden Landerkin.

On May 5, 2021, the inspection process at the CCB included an opening session with the staff at CCB, a tour of the facility, speaking with individuals in custody, and a close-out meeting with CCB staff.

The inspection request itinerary at CDF including a tour of the restrictive housing units, one general population unit, and the outside recreation area. These areas of inspection were selected based on comments and complaints the CIC received throughout the fiscal year from DC residents currently and formerly in custody. The DOC allowed CIC to inspect every area requested.

These areas are listed below:

### CDF

- North 1 (Restrictive Housing Unit)
- South 1 (Restrictive Housing Unit)
- South West 2 (General Population Unit)
- Outside Recreation Area

CIC was permitted to inspect the entire CCB facility. The staff was very helpful and provided insight regarding all areas of inquiry below:

### CCB

- Intake area
- Medical area
- Bottom tier (men housing)
- Top tier (women housing)
- Handicapped cells

## Appendix

The documents on the following pages are, respectively, the questionnaire used by CCB to evaluate new admittees and the document containing guidelines for the COVID-19 Medical Stay In-Place.

Arrestee Name \_\_\_\_\_

Arrest # \_\_\_\_\_

Date Asked \_\_\_\_\_

Time Asked \_\_\_\_\_

**BRIEF NOTES**

Arrestee Refuses to Answer? Y N  
El arresto se negó a responder

\_\_\_\_\_

Any Mental Health Issues? Y N  
¿Algún problema de salud mental?

\_\_\_\_\_

Any Active Medications? Y N  
¿Algún medicamento active?

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you pregnant? Y N  
¿Estás embarazada?

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you identify as LGBTQI? Y N  
¿Te identificas como LGBTQI?

\_\_\_\_\_

Any physical disabilities? Y N  
Cualquier discapacidad física

\_\_\_\_\_

Any history of sexual abuse? Y N  
Cualquier historial de abuso sexual

\_\_\_\_\_

Incarcerated sexual abuse history? Y N  
Antecedentes de abuso sexual encarcelado

\_\_\_\_\_

Any fears of sexual assault? Y N  
Cualquier temor a la agresión sexual

\_\_\_\_\_

Any potentially self-harming behaviors? Y N  
¿Algún comportamiento potencialmente autoagradador?

\_\_\_\_\_

Charged with a sex crime (child) Y N  
Encargado de un delito sexual (niños)

\_\_\_\_\_

Any past mental health treatment? Y N  
¿Algún tratamiento de salud mental pasado?

\_\_\_\_\_

Any suicide thoughts or attempts? Y N  
Cualquier pensamiento o intent de suicidio

\_\_\_\_\_

Medical Seen? Y N  
Necesito ver un médico  
If no, state reason

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you a foreign national? Y N  
If yes, what country?

\_\_\_\_\_

If yes, would you like your Consulate Office contacted?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PDID# \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_

DCDC# \_\_\_\_\_

D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Department of Corrections**



**Monday, May 3, 2021** – The D.C. Department of Corrections (DOC) continues to adjust movement restrictions within DOC facilities in a manner consistent with medical stay-in-place orders and Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines. DOC has sought recommendations from experts on emergency management within a correctional setting to assist with identifying how to keep residents and staff safe and to reduce the likelihood of virus spread within its facilities. As more people have been vaccinated within DOC facilities and District communities, and the District’s rate community spread declines, the DOC will continue to modify allowable activities and programming needed to meet the needs of residents in our care.

The crosswalk below represents an example of the steps the DOC is taking toward the District’s new normal, being mindful of the restrictions still necessary to keep residents, staff, and potential visitors safe and healthy. The DOC team has worked to identify options for restarting many of the services that were suspended during the pandemic, and that can be scaled up or down depending on community spread of COVID-19, vaccinations, and the DOC population size.

**The Department of Corrections will implement the adjustments listed below, effective immediately.**

The DOC would not have been able to continue to provide a safe and secure environment for our expanding reopening efforts without the dedication and commitment to pandemic safety precautions of staff, residents, and community partners. The DOC has been able to expand access to programs and services through innovative strategies developed in collaboration with staff, volunteers, and residents. It has taken a team effort to maximize the impact of programs and services within the jail while reducing the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

DOC will continue to follow DC Department of Health (DOH) and CDC guidelines, as well as complying with the U.S. District Court order, to ensure the health and well-being of all its residents and staff. The medical stay in place is not designed to be punitive in nature and is also not the same as placing residents in restrictive housing. DOC continues to plan and work to implement the safe reopening of facilities and is moving to normalize operations as the pandemic draws to a close. We appreciate the concern, patience and support of our neighbors as we work to keep all within DOC safe, as well as support the public safety of all in the District.

Your health and safety of our residents is extremely important to us. Together, everyone needs to play their part in helping to continue to flatten the curve.

**DC DOC Expanded Movement Crosswalk**

	<b>Currently</b>	<b>Moderate Adjustments</b>
<b>Access to Education and Programs</b>	<p>Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the DOC had a little over 300 American Prison Data Systems (APDS) tablets to provide additional educational, vocational, and social programs to residents. In the summer of 2020, DOC was able to obtain and distribute an additional 1,000 tablets to ensure that programs and services were able to continue despite COVID-19 restrictions. During the pandemic, the agency was able to significantly expand the provision of programs and services utilizing the tables.</p> <p>Over 69,000 hours of tablet based educational and reentry supportive programs were provided via the tablets, in addition to weekly paper-based activity packets to support engagement in fiscal year 2020. As of the end of February 2021, nearly 60,000 additional hours of tablet based educational and reentry supportive programs had been provided to persons in DOC's care and custody.</p> <p>Legal research library is available to residents via tablets for 12 hours each day. Residents electronically submit requests on forms located on tablets. Requests are immediately submitted electronically to DOC law library staff. Restrictive housing and intake units do not have access to tablets, therefore DOC College and Career Readiness (CCR) staff walk through these units weekly to distribute paper request forms for</p>	<p>Residents will continue to have access to the APDS tablets for educational, vocational, and social programs and services; and By May 17, 2021, DOC will allow for in-person synchronous education by DCPS in classrooms and CCR will resume in person educational instruction.</p> <p>Residents will continue to have digital access to the legal research library 12 hours each day via tablet, and paper distribution of requested materials will also continue. DOC staff will keep providing technical support for this process.</p> <p>Starting June 1, 2021, DOC will implement a partnership with the UDC Law School's DOC Legal Research Clinic. Law students and professors will conduct virtual classes on resident tablets on legal research topics and skills and respond to requests for research assistance via tablet messaging.</p> <p>Starting in the Fall 2021 semester, Howard Law School, American Law School, and the University of Illinois Law Library staff and students will join UDC Law School in conducting virtual classes on resident tablets on legal research topics and skills and respond to requests for research assistance via tablet messaging.</p> <p>As the medical stay-in place and social distancing protocols allow for in-person course work to resume, these universities will also be available to assist DOC residents in-person.</p> <p>DOC will continue to provide DCPS access to upload course content for students on resident tablets, provide paper based lessons delivered to residents, and residents have been able to</p>

	<p>legal research requests and copies. Requested materials are delivered to residents within 2 working days of request by CCR staff. Three DOC staff members, including one who is a licensed attorney, assist in researching requested materials, and a DOC CCR staff member provides technical support to all residents related to tablet use and delivers all copies of requested materials.</p> <p>Throughout the pandemic, DCPS has been able to upload course content for students on resident tablets, provide paper based lessons delivered to residents by DOC CCR staff and eventually two DCPS teacher-volunteers, and residents have been able to gather in small groups on housing units with appropriate social distancing in place.</p>	<p>gather in small groups on housing units with appropriate social distancing in place. In addition, designated classroom space has been identified and, by May 10, 2021, will allow for the resumption of synchronous education at CDF, CTF, and on the restricted housing units, with appropriate social distancing.</p>
<b>Access to Family and Friends</b>	<p>DOC has continued expanded the provision of telephone services and added 456 GTL provided tablets at the same cost as usual phone calls (\$0.05 per minute) to residents. Previously there was one phone for every 33 residents, now there is one tablet-based phone for every 3 residents.</p> <p>Low cost text messaging is also accessible via the GTL tablets to residents at \$0.02 per minute. The text messages are a new way of connecting residents to their loved ones that was not available before the pandemic.</p>	<p>DOC residents will continue to have access to the GTL tablets and more phones will be available on the units and video visitation will resume in June 2021.</p>
<b>Video Visitation</b>	<p>Video visitation was suspended at the start of the pandemic in response to the need to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 by curtailing community</p>	<p>By June 7, 2021, DOC will begin limited video visitation, which will be dependent on staff availability, modification to movement to maintain public health guidelines, and installation</p>

	movement and to protect DOC staff from potential COVID exposure with community members visiting the facility. Staff tasked that supporting video visitation have assumed other duties within the DOC.	of tablets/IT equipment on CTF housing units.
<b>DOC Resident Housing (Out of cell time)</b>	During the current medical stay in place DOC residents recreation time has been limited to one hour of out of cell time per day.	Beginning April 30, 2021, out of cell time will increase to 2 hours per day. DOC will continue to work with and obtain guidance from the DOH and follow CDC guidelines. DOC will continue to adjust resident out of cell time as COVID restrictions ease and vaccinations increase.
<b>Outdoor Recreation</b>	The DOC has been providing a minimum of 1 hour outdoor recreation in small groups to maintain safe and secure conditions for residents and staff.	Beginning May 15, 2021, the DOC will expand outdoor recreation to a minimum of 1.5 hours per week for each housing unit. DOC will review further increases as COVID restrictions ease and vaccinations increase.
<b>Small Groups on Unit</b>	The DOC has allowed small group meetings on the housing units (limit 10 residents out of cell at a time).	The DOC will expand small groups to designated off unit spaces that have been appropriately setup to maintain social distancing. DOC will review further increases as COVID restrictions ease and vaccinations increase.
<b>Barbering &amp; Cosmetology</b>	Barbering and cosmetology services will continue for residents wishing to receive services prior to a court appearance.	Barbering and cosmetology services have resumed for residents with upcoming jury trials. Barbering and cosmetology will resume for all residents on June 1, 2021 contingent upon having contractors and participating residents able to demonstrate they have been fully vaccinated for COVID-19 and appropriate social distancing is maintained.
<b>Court Appearances</b>	Video court at the DOC was implemented in response to the need that arose during the course of the pandemic. The DOC operates 10 video hearing spaces designed to accommodate video hearings for the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, the District of Columbia	Video court appearances will continue until the courts are able to fully provide in-person court appearances for DOC residents. Once in-person court appearances fully resumes for DOC residents, staff utilized for video hearing purpose will be able to return to transporting residents to court and to other duties.

	Superior Court and the United States District Court for the District of Maryland.	
<b>Legal Calls</b>	<p>DOC's case management team has coordinated over 20,000 legal calls since the start of the pandemic. DOC continues to work to identify additional space for case managers to provide legal calls.</p> <p>Since June 22, 2020, DOC resumed in-person and contactless legal visits between attorneys and clients.</p>	<p>DOC will continue to work to identify and maintain additional space for case managers to safely provide residents with legal calls until the District's pandemic restrictions are eased.</p> <p>DOC will continue to allow in-person and contactless legal visits.</p>
<b>The READY Center</b>	DOCREADY Center is virtually available to returning citizens.	As community spread of COVID-19 decreases and vaccination rates rise, the READY Center will begin to ease into the reopening process, which will allow returning citizens to visit the READY Center in person.
<b>Deliveries</b>	The DOC uses separate vehicles for facility deliveries to avoid multiple employees in one truck.	DOC will continue to maintain the use of separate vehicles for deliveries to avoid close contact until the District's pandemic restrictions are lifted.
<b>Staff Workspaces</b>	The DOC has and will continue to ensure that staff workstations are placed in a manner that meets the required social distancing guidelines while completing work on-site.	
<b>Staff Considerations (vulnerable groups, caregiving obligations, transportation challenges)</b>	<p>Continue to allow staff to telework while allowing staff to make use of PFL, COVID sick leave, DOE leave, and FMLA. DOC continues to utilize various forms of telecommunications to support staff's work and training opportunities.</p> <p>Additional videoconferencing capability would greatly assist with providing telehealth services to reduce the likelihood of the spread of the virus.</p> <p>To provide additional flexibility, DOC continues to support staggering start times for nonuniform staff and utilizes the 12-hour shift to reduce staff footprints at any given time.</p> <p>Carpooling/ridesharing continue to be used to meet the needs of staff who have transportation challenges related to Metro closures, lack of access to a vehicle, etc.</p>	