



CIC BULLETIN

NEWS FROM DC CORRECTIONS INFORMATION COUNCIL

Message from the Executive Director



Summer is upon us, and the CIC is continuing our focus on DC residents in the custody of the Bureau of Prisons (BOP) and the Department of Corrections (DOC). Washington, DC started the second phase of re-opening on Monday, June 22nd, and CIC staff will continue to operate on a modified telework schedule until further notice. Due to the unprecedented impact of COVID-19, last month we collaborated with The Washington Lawyers Committee and the Public Defender

Service to send a mass mailing to all DC Code offenders in the BOP. Information about [DC's new legislation](#) concerning compassionate release and good time credits were included in the mailing, along with resources for possible legal representation, if eligible. We also met with The Interfaith Action for Human Rights (IAHR), which facilitates a [Pen Pal Project](#) for communicating with adults in custody.

According to a recent [daily population report](#), the DOC is operating at 34.67% of its operating capacity of 3,624 people. The DOC reported its most recent June population as 1,254, which includes the Central Detention Facility (CDF), the Central Treatment Facility (CTF), and other contract facilities. June's population is a sizable decrease from the March 2020 population of 1,790.

On May 27, 2020, the CIC spoke with representatives from the BOP via teleconference in order to address effective communication of information between the two entities, with special emphasis on data related to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. Representatives from MORCA, OVSJG, and the Office of the

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amount of DC Code offenders who have tested positive for COVID-19, recovered from COVID-19, and all deaths of DC Code offenders (regardless of whether or not related to COVID-19). At that time, the BOP reported that there were currently 15 DC Code offenders who were positive for the coronavirus in 8 facilities. They also reported 29 recoveries for DC Code offenders in 12 facilities. No information was provided in relation to deaths for DC Code offenders.

The CIC also recently sent correspondence to the US Parole Commission (USPC) to ask about the process and start dates for new hearings as a result of recent legislative changes for good time credits. In accordance with the COVID-19 Response Supplemental Emergency Amendment Act (D.C. Act 23-286), DC Code offenders who are serving indeterminate sentences may now retroactively receive up to 54 days of good time credits per year, which can change the initial parole hearing dates for those who qualify.

We hope to increase institutional site visits when safety permits. CIC plans to visit the Volunteers of America Chesapeake RRC next month, and will continue to report on the conditions within facilities where DC residents in custody are housed.

Happy Summer and stay safe.

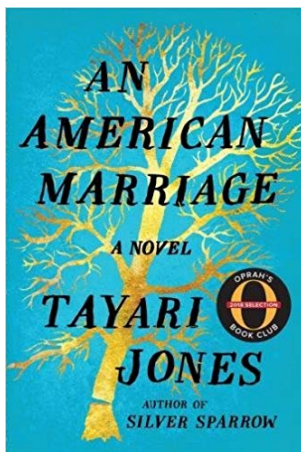
-Donald Isaac, Sr.

Community Events

- **Pivot Pitch Competition 2020: July 9th from 2pm - 4pm.** Join the Georgetown Pivot Program and support our graduating Pivot Fellows as they pitch their new venture ideas to a panel of judges and compete for seed grants to support their entrepreneurial ambitions. [The Pivot Program](#) is an entrepreneurship and employment-focused reentry program led by Georgetown University in partnership with the D.C. Department of Employment Services and supported by the Minority Business Development Agency. [RSVP HERE](#).
Please also mark your calendars for the **Pivot Program Graduation Ceremony, July 16, 2020 at 2pm. (via Zoom, registration details forthcoming).*

An American Marriage: A Novel

by Tayari Jones



An American Marriage (Oprah's Book Club selection, 2018) is a novel based on the marriage of a middle-class African-American couple, Roy and Celestial, who live in Atlanta when Roy is wrongfully convicted of a rape, and sentenced to 12 years in prison. This story explores the possibilities of what can happen when people, who were at once bound, are separated by incarceration.



The CIC is on Instagram!

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