



U.S. Department of Justice
Memorandum
Federal Bureau of Prisons

Central Office
320 First Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20534

April 27, 2020

Donald Isaac
Executive Director
DC Corrections Information Council
1400 I Street, NW
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Director Isaac:

I am in receipt of your letter dated, April 9, 2020, wherein you express concerns about the conditions facing DC inmates in BOP facilities amidst the novel COVID-19 pandemic.

I acknowledge your concerns regarding inmates housed in BOP facilities, during this pandemic, and I do not take them lightly. The BOP continues to be deeply concerned for the health and welfare of inmates entrusted to our care and for the staff who live in the surrounding communities. Our staff are vested in ensuring public safety and continue to diligently and safely carry out their responsibilities. Our highest priority continues to be mitigating the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

In response to COVID-19, the BOP has instituted a comprehensive management approach that includes screening, testing, appropriate treatment, prevention, education, and infection control measures. The BOP has been coordinating our COVID-19 efforts since January 2020, using subject-matter experts both internal and external to the agency, including guidance and directives from the World Health Organization (WHO), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), the Department of Justice (DOJ), and the Office of the Vice President.

As it relates to home confinement, inmates do not need to apply to be considered for home confinement. Case management staff are urgently reviewing all inmates to determine which ones meet

the criteria established by the Attorney General. The Department of Justice has also increased resources to review and make appropriate determinations as soon as possible. While all inmates are being reviewed for suitability, any inmate who believes he/she is eligible may request to be referred to home confinement and provide a release plan to their Case Manager. The BOP may contact family members to gather needed information, when making decisions concerning home confinement placement.

Guidance related to the BOP's use of home confinement in response to Attorney General Barr's original memo to the BOP on March 26, 2020, instructing the BOP to prioritize home confinement as an appropriate response to the COVID-19 pandemic may be found here https://www.bop.gov/resources/news/20200405_covid19_home_confinement.jsp. We are urgently reviewing all inmates to determine which ones meet the criteria to be suitable for home confinement, as established by the Attorney General.

On April 3, 2020, the Attorney General exercised emergency authority under the CARES Act to further increase home confinement. Based on the guidance outlined in Attorney General Barr's memorandums regarding home confinement during COVID-19, the BOP is implementing those directives, as instructed.

The Bureau of Prisons will continue to provide daily updates and information on actions related to COVID-19 at www.bop.gov/coronavirus/index.jsp.

Sincerely,



M.D. Carvajal
Director