



# Wisconsin Department of Corrections

Governor Tony Evers | Secretary Kevin A. Carr

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **SECOND CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) REPORTED BY CORRECTIONS EMPLOYEE**

The Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC) has received confirmation that a second employee has tested positive for COVID-19 (Coronavirus). The first positive case was confirmed on March 18, 2020 and is an employee at Waupun Correctional Institution (WCI). The second positive case was confirmed on March 21, 2020 and is an employee at Columbia Correctional Institution (CCI). Both institutions are maximum security facilities and upon notice of the confirmed positive test, each institution suspended administrative rules to limit movement for the protection of our staff and the adults in our care. Both employees were directed to quarantine per CDC guidelines. At this time, no individuals in our care have tested positive, and our healthcare professionals are monitoring all individuals in our care closely.

In the last several weeks DOC has taken several steps to minimize the risk to staff and persons under our care from exposure to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Each division maintains detailed pandemic plans that outline protocols and isolation procedures when and if an individual is exposed or infected. Upon confirmation of a positive case, all potentially exposed staff are notified, and all adults in custody directly exposed are quarantined. Any staff members that report symptoms will be directed to quarantine for 14 days.

DOC is taking the situation very seriously, and is working closely with DHS on best practices on how to handle this situation. We will continue to monitor this situation and act in accordance with the guidelines established by our state and federal partners. The health and safety of our staff and those in our care continue to be our top priority during this crisis.