

Internal Memo

Date: October 9, 2025

To: Friends and Family of Incarcerated Persons

From: Paul Schnell, Commissioner

RE: Updates on the Phased Closure of MCF-Stillwater

Last week marked a big step at MCF-Stillwater as the facility began to operate fully in Phase 1. As I shared in last week's memo, this has been a significant change for both the incarcerated population and staff. It has brought new routines, some confusion, and tough moments. We appreciate the patience, understanding, and strength so many of you have shown. Thank you.

A few more adjustments ahead

You may notice some new staff in your facility. As part of the Stillwater closure, some staff were reassigned to other prisons across the system. Change can take time, and as everyone adjusts, we appreciate your patience, understanding, and respect for one another.

Looking ahead: Monthly updates

Since June, we have been sharing weekly updates about the Stillwater closure. Now that Phase 1 is underway and things are more stable, updates will be sent once a month instead of every week. These memos will include news about our facilities and services, answers to common questions, and other important information. We remain committed to keeping you informed and being open and honest with you throughout this process.