

Internal Memo

Date: August 7, 2025

To: Friends and Family of Incarcerated Persons

From: Paul Schnell, Commissioner

RE: Update on the Phased Closure of MCF-Stillwater

The Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC) is continuing to prepare for Phase 1 of the MCF-Stillwater closure. This is an update to the progress since the July 31 memo:

MCF-Stillwater (STW) Population Update:

- Construction at MCF-St. Cloud and an increase in intakes has made the incarcerated population temporarily higher at other prisons. This is not permanent and will get better soon.
- Transfers into STW in preparation for Phase 1 are expected to begin this week.
- The process for transferring higher education IPs out of STW is being finalized.

STW Populations and Programs:

- Interviews are currently being done for incarcerated individuals going into the Atlantis Substance Use Disorder Treatment program at STW.
- There are still vacancies for the Earned Living Unit (ELU) at STW. The deadline to apply is August 8. You will receive additional information from your facility if you meet ELU eligibility criteria.