



Date: May 16, 2025

To: Crime victims and their families

From: Paul Schnell, Commissioner

RE: Phased Closure of MCF-Stillwater

You have likely learned of the recent agreement between legislative leaders and Governor Tim Walz for a phased closure of the Minnesota Correctional Facility (MCF) - Stillwater. We understand that the decision may raise both concerns and questions. We want to assure you that we are committed to keeping you informed as decisions are made as well as addressing any concerns you may have. Here are some key points to keep in mind about this announcement:

- The decision to shut MCF-Stillwater will happen over the course of four years and in a phased manner.
- There will be no additional early release opportunities due to this decision.
- Individuals incarcerated at MCF-Stillwater may be relocated over the coming months or years, but they will remain incarcerated according to their sentence and terms of incarceration.
- If anyone wants to be notified of any relocations or changes of custody for any incarcerated individual, they should register for notification through [Minnesota Haven](#).

Ultimately, the closure of the Stillwater facility reflects the larger goal of Minnesota's prison system: to operate correctional facilities that provide cost-effective, secure placement, ensure accountability, and offer access to rehabilitative programming that reduces the risk of reoffending, harm to communities, and the financial burden on Minnesota taxpayers.