DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Internal Memo – Central Office

DATE: March 6, 2020

TO: All DOC Offenders

FROM: Commissioner Paul Schnell

RE: Coronavirus (COVID 19) and Seasonal Influenza

I wanted to share with all of you some information about how the State of Minnesota and the Department are addressing the ongoing issues of seasonal influenza and the potential for cases of coronavirus (COVID 19).

The DOC is working closely with the MN Department of Health and Department of Homeland Security to ensure your safety as well as that of our staff. This starts with good hand and cell hygiene.

- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly – scrub for 20 seconds with soap before rinsing with water.
- Cough or sneeze into your sleeve or a tissue – not your hands. Immediately toss your tissue in the garbage.
- Clean your cells regularly. Contact your living unit staff for procedures.
- As always, if you are concerned about your health, please sign up for sick call or contact Nursing.

Be assured that the DOC has processes and procedures to address these types of situations. Remember that seasonal influenza occurs every year. As always, we are working hard to regularly clean the entire facility using disinfectants, including visiting areas.

I will continue to provide you with updates as this situation unfolds. If you want to share the link below with your family or friends, it provides excellent information on how the State of Minnesota is responding to the COVID 19 event. Click on the Coronavirus link.

www.health.state.mn.us