



MN Department of Corrections COVID-19 Releases

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COVID – 19 Testing in MN Prisons (6/9/20)

- The DOC recently began sentinel testing of all DOC facilities, including incarcerated population and staff.
- The DOC has developed a stringent quarantine protocol.
- The DOC has been keeping the population in cohorts to reduce the risk of spread
- The DOC has implemented social distancing where possible
- The DOC follows CEC and MDH guidelines for the management of COVID outbreaks, including contact tracing.

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COVID-19 in DOC Facilities

- MCF- Moose Lake: 74 positive – 67 recovered
- MCF-Willow River (CIP): 80 positive – 75 recovered
- MCF – Lino Lakes: 12 positive – 9 recovered
- MCF – St. Cloud: 1 positive – 0 recovered
- MCF – Faribault – 155 positive – 0 recovered

- Currently hospitalized: 2

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Impact of COVID-19 on DOC and Community Response

- Conditions of confinement
- Supervision
- Community response and response from the legislature
- Lawsuit

- ❖ **Helpful link:** MN DOC COVID-19 Updates -- <https://mn.gov/doc/about/covid-19-updates/>

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DOC Releases

Releases from prison:

- **Standard Release Date:** Supervised Release or Intensive Supervised Release
- **Work Release:** Most commonly to halfway houses, jails, etc.
- **Re-release:** Technical violators, expiration of sentence
- **Challenge Incarceration Program (CIP):** Step down phases
- **Conditional Medical Release:** Medical release – not a transitional release Program
- **Conditional Release Program (CRP)**

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DOC Releases – FY 19

| | Frequency | Percent |
|------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| CIP Program Release | 412 | 5.9 |
| Conditional Medical Release | 6 | .1 |
| Full Expiration Discharge | 764 | 10.9 |
| CRP Program Release | 10 | .1 |
| Intensive Supervised Release | 1515 | 21.7 |
| Standard Supervised Release | 3832 | 54.8 |
| Work Release | 456 | 6.5 |
| Total | 6995 | 100.0 |

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COVID-19 Release Programs

- **COVID-19 Early Work Release**
- **COVID-19 Conditional Medical Release**

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COVID-19 Early Work Release

- **Goal:** Increase space/capacity inside the state correctional facilities
- **Confinement different from regular work release:**
 - Private residence
 - Electronic/Telephonic Home Monitoring
- **Released to date since 06/10/2020:** 65
- **Applicant Pool:** 130
 - Denial reasons: Detainer/warrant/Interstate Release/No viable residence
- **Notification of victim**

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COVID-19 Work Release Parameters

Parameters (statutory parameters in italics)

- 50% of sentence served
- No crime for benefit of gang
- No DWI offender who has not completed treatment
- No lifers
- No CIP
- No mandatory minimum
- 90 days from release
- Low to medium MNSTARR
- Non-violent governing offense
- No one currently in disciplinary segregation

Reentry Review – Exclusionary Criteria

- No approved release plan
- No placement/housing
- No computer/internet access
- No detainer – don't exclude people if they have a detainer but make release conditional on whether the detainer is cleared or not
- No inter-state supervision

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Work Release Information

- **Work Release Program Fact sheet:** https://mn.gov/doc/assets/Work%20Release_tcm1089-309002.pdf
- **Work Release Program Policy:** http://www.doc.state.mn.us/DocPolicy2/html/DPW_Display_TOC.asp?Opt=205.120.htm
- **Information related to the COVID-19 Expanded* Work Release Program:** https://mn.gov/doc/assets/COVID-19%20Expanded%20Work%20Release%20Program%20Memo%2004.13.20_tcm1089-427972.pdf
- *Please note that even though this specific program was developed in response to COVID-19 for the purposes of increasing capacity inside our facilities, the “expanded” work release program actually has narrower and stricter parameters than our regular work release program.

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COVID-19 Conditional Medical Release

- **Goal:** To protect those most vulnerable to COVID-19 due to underlying health conditions
- **To Note:** Those who previously would not have qualified for CMR may do so now if their underlying medical condition puts them at risk of grave harm from COVID-19

- **Victim Notification**

- **By the numbers**

Applications Received: 1636

Physician Review: 79

Denied: 879

Public Safety Review: 239

Approved: 110

Final Review: 238

Released: 19

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Overview of the CMR Review Process

Applications

CMR Review

Release Planning

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Conditional Medical Release

- **Regular Conditional Medical Release**

Policy: <http://www.doc.state.mn.us/DocPolicy2/Document/203.200.htm>

- **Information related to COVID-19 Conditional Medical Release**

Process: <https://mn.gov/doc/community-supervision/covid-19-conditional-medical-release-process/> -- so far, we have released one person under this process.

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Lawsuit

- On April 30th, Carlton County District Court Judge Leslie Beirers issued an order to show cause in response to filings of Writs of Habeas Corpus and Mandamus.
- The matter is pending.

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Questions?