

Family Message

Sentencing Error Information

What happened?

A sentencing sequencing miscalculation in our electronic records system (OMNI) resulted in inaccurate release dates for some individuals who are incarcerated or who have been released. About 3,000 people who are currently incarcerated will have their Earned Release Dates (ERD) recalculated, which may result in the ERD being changed.

Who is impacted?

Incarcerated individuals could be impacted if they meet the following:

1. Their sentence included a mandatory sentence or an enhancement,
2. AND they earned good time in jail.

People who have released from custody or who are under DOC supervision could be affected if they meet the following:

1. Their release dates were between 2002 and December 11, 2015.
2. AND their sentence included a mandatory sentence or an enhancement,
3. AND they earned good time in jail.

What is the department doing to fix the error?

The technical fix to the system will be in place on January 7. In the meantime, DOC has verified all upcoming releases scheduled between now and January 7, to make sure there are no additional releases prior to their actual earned release date.

We are also detaining individuals who are under active community supervision who have not completed their sentences.

We are working to fix the error within our system and verifying all the sentences of those released to see which offenders may still have time left to serve on their sentences.

What will happen if my family member has more time to serve?

If the individual is in the community, they are required to come back into a facility or work release.

If he/she has been compliant with supervision requirements and crime-free during the period of release, the time between release and today will be credited day-for-day. For example, if the individual released 100 days prior to the completion of his/her sentence, and they were crime-free and compliant with supervision while in the community for 90 days, he/she will still owe 10 days of incarceration to complete his/her sentence.

Efforts will be made to ensure those with current employment are able to maintain stability during this period of incarceration.

If the individual is still in custody, they will be notified by their classification counselor if there is a change to the release date. Classification counselors are also available to answer their questions in the meantime.

How much will the ERD change?

The change in the ERD will depend on many factors including the length of the base sentence. Some change will be as little as a few days, while others could change by several months.

When will I know if my family member has to come back to prison?

The department is currently creating a list which will include the names and DOC numbers of affected offenders which will be available to the public. We expect to have this information by January 8. Individuals who still have time on their sentences are encouraged to report to the Department to serve the remainder of their time. Warrants will be issued for individuals who make themselves unavailable for their continued incarceration.

For more information:

We have established a toll-free phone line that people can call to learn updates: **Phone:** 1-855-952-9971

We will also keep our public website, www.doc.wa.gov, updated as information is available.