April 18, 2020

TO: Community Corrections Staff

FROM: Mac Pevey, Assistant Secretary
       Community Corrections Division

SUBJECT: Transfer of Incarcerated Individuals to the Community

On Thursday, April 16, 2020, an agency-wide communication was distributed regarding the upcoming transfer of individuals back to the community. The Governor’s Proclamation 20-50 provides for the release and transfer of a limited number of individuals. With that, the Community Corrections Division will begin to monitor and supervise identified individuals under certain conditions in the community. The following is a brief high level overview of each of those groups:

Commutation

These are individuals released under the Governor’s authority to commute a sentence. Under the Emergency Commutation, only the confinement portion of the original sentence for individuals is commuted, however, any period of Court ordered supervision under the most recent cause or for any prior cause, remains in full effect. All other conditional commutations considered by the Governor’s Office through the Clemency & Pardons Board will follow previously established processes and are not covered under this proclamation.

Furlough

These are individuals that are transferring out into the community under the Secretary’s statutory authority, within 30 days of their Projected Release Date (PRD). These are individuals transitioning from our work release facilities into the community under their previously investigated and approved Offender Release Plans (ORP). Furloughed individuals are instructed to be available for contact by a Community Corrections Officer (CCO). At a minimum, assigned CCOs will contact the furloughed individual or their sponsor telephonically once a week until they reach their PRD, then their period of community custody will begin.
**Rapid Reentry**

These are individuals that are within six (6) months of their Earned Release Date (ERD) and will have an approved ORP at the time of transfer. Incarcerated individuals with specified high-risk health conditions or that are 65 years of age or older will be considered. Additional individuals whom meet the eligibility requirements under the proclamation may be considered for transfers to the community under this program. Incarcerated individuals are being transferred to this program via the proclamation and the provisions within the statute governing Graduated Reentry (GRE), where individuals serve the remainder of their prison time on electronic monitoring. More details specific to this program will follow.

Also noted in the Governor’s proclamation, is a temporary suspension of sections within RCW 72.09.270, which govern County of Origin. The suspension of the sections within the statute are limited to the COVID-19 incident and the identified participants within this proclamation. With that said, all individuals releasing or transferring under each of these categories will release to an address. To mitigate risk to the community and to provide for opportunities for individuals to succeed, the agency and the Governor’s Office has made a commitment that individuals will not release homeless which may include temporary placement in a hotel.

The Community Corrections Division is strong, flexible and committed to public safety. I have no doubt, like always, we will rise to the challenge. Thank you for all that you do and contribute to our communities each and every day. Please take care, stay safe and stay healthy.

MP

cc: Executive Strategy Team
    Charlotte Headley, Chief of Security Operations
    Dianne Ashlock, Statewide Records Director
    Nancy Waldo, Labor Relations Consultant
    Billie Peterson, Policy Program Manager
    Tom Layne, Hearings Administrator
    Greg Oliver, Jail Contracts Manager
    Ton Johnson, WFSE Labor Advocate
    DOC Nurse Desk
    DOC Covid19 Mailbox
    DOC Joint Information Center Mailbox