



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
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December 11, 2020

**TO:** Interested Parties  
*Jeneva Cotton* *Scott Russell*  
**FROM:** Jeneva Cotton and Scott Russell  
Incident Commanders, Prisons Health Services Unified Command  
**SUBJECT:** Temporary Suspension of EFV Applications

This year continues to present many challenges for all individuals in our state and country. The Washington State Department of Corrections remains committed to finding ways to keep families connected during this time and are taking steps to provide options that can be completed considering the safety and health of families, friends, staff and individuals in our agency's custody.

With many of our agency's regular resources prioritized to assist in the response to COVID-19, the Department has temporarily suspended the acceptance of new Extended Family Visit (EFV) applications, effective December 10, 2020.

Once the Department can resume the normal application process and can expect reinstatement of the program, it will process the applications already received and begin to accept new applications. At that time, the Department will provide an update, post an alert on the agency's public website, and share the information during family council meetings.

Application packets currently under review will remain at the Statewide Visit Unit level until the process resumes. After December 10, 2020, no new packets will be accepted, and any existing requests still at the facility level will need to remain at that level pending program reinstatement.

Our Department looks forward to resuming the crucial program of EFVs at such time as it is safe for those committed to our agency's custody.