DATE: August 13, 2021
TO: All WSP Incarcerated Individuals
FROM: Steve Barker, Associate Superintendent
SUBJECT: WSP Limited Area Outbreak – IMU South and Victor Unit

As of Thursday, August 12, 2021 Washington State Penitentiary has four (4) confirmed positive COVID-19 cases among the incarcerated population in the Intensive Management Unit (IMU) South, and two (2) confirmed positive cases among the incarcerated individuals in Victor Unit. Both of these units are on Limited Area Outbreak status.

While IMU South and Victor Unit individuals will remain quarantined and unable to participate in visitation, the rest of the facility will continue normal operations.

As a result of several staff positive COVID-19 cases, WSP resumed testing the population again this week and fortunately as of today, there have been 1,172 negative test results received. We’d like to express gratitude for your cooperation and continued use of proper PPE, and hope that the trend of negative test results continue. By Tuesday, August 17th we plan on testing IMU South and Victor Unit again as required due to the Limited Area Outbreak Status in those areas, so please continue to cooperate with staff. It is making a difference and we cannot achieve normal movement and smooth operations without your continued cooperation and support.

It is imperative to make sure you continue to wear your appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), as well as social distancing at all times. Please encourage and model the same behavior that we expect from our incarcerated population.

It is vital that we continue to follow the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines, ensuring to follow the six (6) foot social distancing rule, washing your hands, and keeping areas of the institution sanitized. Please remain diligent in wearing your masks at all times, as your safety is a priority.

Corrections is committed to everyone’s safety. We will continue to communicate with you as we progress through this pandemic.