

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
FY 2021-22 JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE HEARING AGENDA

Tuesday, December 15, 2020
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

2:00-2:15 INTRODUCTIONS AND OPENING COMMENTS

Presenter: Dean Williams, Executive Director

2:15-3:15 COMMON QUESTIONS

Main Presenters:

- Dean Williams, Executive Director
- Travis Trani, Deputy Executive Director

Supporting Presenters:

- Deb Goheen, Director of Finance & Administration
- Matt Hansen, Director of Prisons
- Annie Skinner, Public Information Officer
- Rick Thompkins, Chief Human Resource Officer
- Michelle Brodeur, Director of Clinical & Correctional Services

Topics:

- Implementation of FY 2020-21 HLD Decrease: Pages 1-3, Question 1 in the packet, Slide 4
- COVID-19 Response: Pages 3-6, Questions 2 and 4 in the packet, Slides 5-12
- Vaccinations and Workforce Issues: Page 6, Questions 5 and 6 in the packet, Slides 13-14

3:15-4:00 GENERAL DISCUSSION

Main Presenters:

- Dean Williams, Executive Director
- Travis Trani, Deputy Executive Director
- Ruth Coffman, Deputy Executive Director

Supporting Presenters:

- Matt Hansen, Director of Prisons
- David Johnson, Director of Adult Parole

Topics:

- Withdrawal of budget requests 1 through 3: Pages 5-6, Question 3 in the packet
- Community Corrections Transition Placements: Page 7, Question 7 in the packet, Slide 15
- Jails: Pages 7-9, Question 8 in the packet, Slide 16
- Absconded population: Pages 9-10, Questions 9 and 10 in the packet, Slides 17-18

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Tuesday, December 15, 2020

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

COMMON QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION AT DEPARTMENT HEARINGS

- 1 Please describe the Department's actions to implement the Health, Life, and Dental decrease in lieu of a 5.0 percent General Fund salary base reduction. Please include dollar and percentage share data on planned "allocations" of the decrease to all divisions and programs within the Department. Please describe the use of vacancy savings, delayed hiring, and the implementation of one-time or ongoing operating savings. Please describe the urgency of the Department's need to engage in a furlough in FY 2020-21 due to the inability to achieve savings in other ways.
 - a. Was the Department of Corrections affected by the furlough policy? Which of the Department's positions were subject to the furlough and which were not?

Response: *The Department has found it challenging to meet the 5% (\$19.5 million) General Fund personal services reduction while simultaneously managing the COVID-19 pandemic inside state correctional facilities and finding vacant General Fund positions for staff that were permanently or temporarily displaced from their former positions. These staff placements included 53 positions eliminated with the closure of the Skyline Correctional Center, 9 positions eliminated with the capacity reduction at the LaVista Correctional Facility, 18 staff transfers driven by the reorganization of the Colorado Correctional Industries, and 23 staff transfers due to the hiatus of the federal grant that pays for the operation of the International Correctional Management Training Center.*

The Department implemented five strategies to reduce personal services expenses in FY 2020-21 in order to live within the reduced funding. The details are reflected in the chart below.

1. **Leaving positions vacant.** *The largest portion of the savings is expected to come from leaving positions vacant throughout the year. The Department allocated vacancy savings targets to all divisions and programs. These calculations were based on historical vacancies with the exception of the Department's medical and mental health programs. These two areas typically utilize vacancy savings to hire outside contract staffing when DOC is unable to fill full-time positions. Since this is an ongoing need, this was factored into any expected savings from these two programs.*
2. **Reduced targets for overtime pay.** *The Department allocated overtime payment targets to the facilities to assist with managing this expense throughout the year. Also, DOC has seen improvement in the turnover rate, a decrease from 17.5% in FY 2018-19 to 13.9% in FY 2019-20, which reduces the need for overtime due to vacancies.*

3. **Discontinued most incentive/discretionary pay programs.** *These programs were used to help recruit and retain targeted job classes as specific locations. This included incentive pay for hard-to-hire positions at the Sterling Correctional Facility, a housing incentive pay for hard-to-hire positions at the Buena Vista Correctional Complex, and incentive pay for Community Parole Officers at most locations across the state. Finally, signing bonuses for new staff hired for Correctional Officer I (CO I) positions at the Sterling facility were also halted.*
4. **Reduced personal services contracts.** *The Department has historically utilized personal services funding to pay for professional services when an area of expertise is required and it falls outside of the knowledge possessed by DOC's existing staff. Over the years, the preponderance of this spending has been for engineering studies that are required before the Department can begin facility maintenance or capital construction projects.*
5. **Furloughs.** *The Governor and the Department leadership agree that the best way to achieve a fair and equitable pathway for all agencies to meet the 5% HLD reduction required by the FY 2020-21 budget was through a thoughtful and restrained furlough plan. Furloughs have been instituted in a tiered fashion to protect those state workers earning less. Approximately 4,200 DOC staff are exempt from the furlough with most of them (~ 3,800) receiving the exemption due to the need to ensure the safe and continuous operation of state correctional facilities. These staff are in the CO I/II, Correctional Support Trades Supervisor I (CSTS I), Nurse I, Health Care Technician I, and Client Care Aide II job classes. There are approximately 400 staff that are exempt due to not meeting the minimum salary threshold.*

In addition to the 5% HLD decrease applied to all agencies, the Department also helped balance the FY 2020-21 budget by forgoing the planned second year range movement for the CO I, CO II, and CSTS I job classes. The Department received additional funding in FY 2019-20 for a staff retention initiative to begin the first of a two-part planned increase to move the staff in these job classes to salary range midpoint. The Department included a base adjustment of \$10.7 million General Fund for the second planned increase in the FY 2020-21 request. Although initially approved during FY 2020-21 figure setting, DOC's base was later reduced by this amount as it was identified as another measure that could assist with balancing the budget in the current year.

Department of Corrections - Projected General Fund Expenditure Reductions in FY 2020-21

Program	% of Total Reduction	Total Allocation	Vacancy Savings	Furlough	Professional Services	Overtime Reduction	Incentive Reduction
Executive Director	1.55%	\$301,319	\$26,720	\$24,599	\$250,000		
External Capacity	0.03%	\$5,033	\$0	\$5,033			
Inspector General	0.33%	\$64,731	\$37,896	\$26,835			
Utilities	0.01%	\$1,517	\$0	\$1,517			
Maintenance	9.85%	\$1,916,371	\$531,372	\$50,999	\$1,250,000	\$30,000	\$54,000
Housing & Security	52.10%	\$10,140,832	\$5,817,608	\$155,223		\$2,220,000	\$1,948,000
Food Service	2.26%	\$439,318	\$193,933	\$23,385		\$150,000	\$72,000
Medical	15.58%	\$3,033,474	\$2,589,366	\$162,108		\$210,000	\$72,000
Laundry	0.02%	\$3,390	\$0	\$3,390			

Department of Corrections - Projected General Fund Expenditure Reductions in FY 2020-21

Program	% of Total Reduction	Total Allocation	Vacancy Savings	Furlough	Professional Services	Overtime Reduction	Incentive Reduction
Superintendents	0.30%	\$57,631	\$0	\$57,631			
Youthful Offender System (YOS)	0.94%	\$182,167	\$103,248	\$18,919		\$60,000	
Case Management	0.93%	\$181,308	\$99,458	\$81,850			
Mental Health	4.38%	\$852,031	\$807,225	\$44,806			
Legal Access	0.10%	\$19,907	\$13,843	\$6,064			
Business Operations	0.45%	\$87,957	\$64,969	\$22,988			
Personnel	0.11%	\$20,886	\$12,991	\$7,895			
Offender Services	0.21%	\$40,460	\$29,000	\$11,460			
Transportation	0.29%	\$56,755	\$24,605	\$2,150		\$30,000	
Training	0.13%	\$25,135	\$14,631	\$10,504			
Facility Services	0.05%	\$10,435	\$0	\$10,435			
Labor	0.00%	\$734	\$0	\$734			
Education	1.42%	\$275,723	\$235,839	\$39,884			
Recreation	0.49%	\$94,992	\$29,633	\$5,359		\$60,000	
Drug & Alcohol	0.44%	\$86,015	\$65,440	\$20,575			
Sex Offender	1.25%	\$243,557	\$230,007	\$13,550			
Parole	5.04%	\$981,401	\$352,927	\$88,474		\$180,000	\$360,000
Community Supervision	1.50%	\$291,120	\$57,201	\$29,919		\$60,000	\$144,000
YOS Aftercare	0.01%	\$1,856	\$0	\$1,856			
Community Re-Entry	0.19%	\$37,017	\$25,898	\$11,119			
Parole Board	0.06%	\$12,098	\$0	\$12,098			
Total	100.00%	\$19,465,170	\$11,363,810	\$951,359	\$1,500,000	\$3,000,000	\$2,650,000

2 Please describe how the changes implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic have changed the nature of the Department’s work. Please address programmatic, budgetary, and office space impacts.

Response: *The Department’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic has driven far reaching changes in DOC’s daily work. The following are some of the major changes:*

- *The reopening of the Centennial Correctional Facility (CCF-S) in March 2020 coincided with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Executive Order D 2020-016 temporarily suspended the use of CCF-S for housing close custody inmates and instead allowed the facility to house mixed classification inmates for operational needs related to the COVID-19 outbreak. CCF-S is the initial intake and 14-day quarantine facility for male inmates allowing the Department to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in prison facilities.*

- *DOC's prison facilities have been on at least modified Phase II operations throughout the pandemic. As of December 7, 2020, 15 state and 2 private prison facilities are on Phase III operations.*
 - *Phase II operations require that inmates living in each unit be isolated from others in the prison. The operational plan increases social distancing space by reducing the amount of people permitted in any area during dining and other activities that might otherwise be done in larger groups.*
 - *Phase III operations mean that inmates in quarantined and isolated areas will remain in their cells outside of opportunities to shower. Outdoor recreation, phone, and video visitation will be made available in quarantined units to the extent possible once medical experts believe it is safe to do so.*
- *The Department has provided continual public information throughout the pandemic on the external website. The website includes: COVID-19 related press releases, answers to frequently asked questions, a dashboard that is updated daily with detailed information about inmate and staff testing numbers and facility operations, and other resources for friends and family members with loved ones who are incarcerated. The COVID-19 specific page can be found at: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdoc/covid-19-faq-and-updates>*

The Department has taken other steps beyond the public website to communicate pertinent and timely information. This includes:

- *Hosting weekly livestream updates answering questions that are submitted by family friends.*
- *Having a designated constituent services team that responds to questions and requests for information from the general public.*
- *Providing information on the Department's social media channels.*
- *Working with the phone and video visitation vendor to provide free phone calls and visits for inmate families. DOC also provided free postage for inmates at several facilities during temporary phone restrictions due to health concerns.*
- *Hosting regular town hall meetings with the Executive Director and the Department's Directors where stakeholders can ask live questions.*
- *Participating in community events such as the Canon City Mayor's Facebook town hall to provide the local communities with information.*
- *The Department has also enhanced its internal communication and management efforts during the pandemic. This includes:*
 - *Daily Incident Command System meetings to crossflow COVID-19 information and issues across all key areas in DOC.*
 - *Daily interactions with the State Emergency Operations Center to communicate testing results/needs, personal protective equipment shortfalls, staffing needs, etc.*
 - *Hired outside expertise including an epidemiologist and a dedicated COVID response manager.*

- *DOC stood up a volunteer rapid response team that is comprised of 65 members that support COVID operations statewide for employee testing.*
 - *As of 12/7/20, 59,281 tests have been administered, with 3,865 employees triaged out and 3,382 returned to work.*
- *The Department received \$28.8 million from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) to assist with the payment of expenses associated with mitigating the COVID-19 pandemic in the state corrections system. Most of DOC's added expenses related to COVID-19 have been for payroll costs. This includes discretionary pay to staff working in a location that is in Phase III operations in light of the hazardous work environment. The Department hired additional temporary staff for medical positions to care for infected inmates and replace existing medical staff when they have tested positive. DOC also hired temporary staff to help manage the response to the pandemic and track and manage DOC staff and inmates with suspected or confirmed cases of coronavirus. Finally, the Department has utilized the funding to purchase personal protective equipment for staff, cloth masks for inmates, and increased cleaning and hygiene supplies to help mitigate the spread of the disease.*
- *Most of DOC's staff works in the state prison facilities and has continued to work in this setting throughout the pandemic. The Department leases office space, primarily for the Department's Headquarters (HQ) in Colorado Springs, a warehouse in Denver for Colorado Correctional Industries (CCI), the Corrections Training Academy in Canon City, and parole offices located across the state.*
 - *The Department has operated most of the HQ functions remotely since the pandemic began. Once it is safe to do so, DOC plans to return most HQ staff to the Colorado Springs office although this may include flexible work arrangement such as working from home during part of the work week. This would allow the Department to create efficiencies by consolidating centralized operations to Colorado Springs to alleviate overcrowding conditions in State-owned prison office space.*
 - *The lease for the existing CCI warehouse expires in July 2021. CCI's programming needs with the new lease will be reduced either through relocating to a smaller warehouse or staying in place but sub-leasing a portion of the space to another state agency.*
 - *Parole offices are physically located in communities with a geographical concentration of parolees under supervision. Parolees visit parole offices to obtain services from Parole staff as well as community agency drop-in partners. The need for office space will continue to be reviewed whenever leases come up for renewal. The review looks at evolving parole supervision practices as well as the location of the parole population, access to housing and employment, and services provided by community partners.*

GENERAL DISCUSSION

- 3 *[Sen. Moreno] Please provide a more thorough explanation of the decision to withdraw requests 1 through 3. Specifically, explain the following statement: "It has come to our attention that these technical changes could create unintended operational impacts not supported by the Governor."*

Response: Given the unusual level of uncertainty the COVID-19 pandemic has introduced into the models utilized for projecting prison populations, the Department wants to work with the General Assembly to balance potential near-term savings from a reduced caseload with the flexibility needed to address any post-pandemic increases in the prison population. DOC plans to review the population forecasts prepared by the Division of Criminal Justice and the Legislative Council Staff later this month to see if caseload-related budget amendments are appropriate in FY 2021-22.

COVID-19 DISCUSSION

- 4 Please provide an overview of how the Department is handling the coronavirus pandemic. Please include impacts on the health of staff and inmates, changes to daily life within prisons, and any budgetary issues that the Committee should be aware of.

Response: Through December 7, 2020, the Department has placed 3,865 staff on leave due to a positive COVID-19 test result, display of symptoms while awaiting a test result, or possible exposure. As of December 10, 2020, there have been 6,165 positive test results for inmates with 1,859 current active cases. There have been 15 inmate deaths where the inmate either demonstrated symptoms or tested positive for COVID-19.

Since the early days of the pandemic in March 2020, DOC's prisons have been on some level of modified operations. This has included Phase II operations that requires inmates in living units to be isolated from other inmates in the prison. This level of operations also reduces group sizes in communal settings such as dining halls and recreation areas. As of December 7, 2020, the Department has 15 state and 2 private prisons on Phase III operations which places inmates in quarantine and further limits time outside of their cells.

The Department received \$28.8 million from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) to assist with the payment of expenses associated with mitigating the COVID-19 pandemic in the state corrections system. The CRF is available for expenditures through December 30, 2020. Since expenses related to COVID-19 are expected to continue into 2021, the Department is currently working with the Office of State Planning & Budgeting to estimate these ongoing expenses.

- 5 [Sen. Moreno] Where do correctional officers fall within the Administration's plans for vaccine distribution? Where do inmates fall within the plan?

Response: The Department's vaccination distribution plan for staff and inmates is being coordinated through the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). The implementation plan will be executed in line with the vaccination plan received from CDPHE. UPDATE – Correctional workers fall in phase 1B of the implementation plan developed by CDPHE, and are slated to receive the vaccine beginning in Winter 2021. Inmates over the age of 65, or those with obesity, diabetes, chronic lung disease, significant heart disease, chronic kidney disease, cancer, or are immunocompromised are in Phase 2 and should receive the vaccine in Spring of 2021. The remaining inmate population should receive the vaccine in the summer.

- 6 [Rep. McCluskie] Please provide a description of current workforce issues, especially as it relates to COVID-19. Please include answers to the following questions: Have employees left employment

with the Department due to exposure to COVID? What other factors are affecting hiring and retention?

Response: *The Department's current workforce issues include staff shortages based on staff quarantined due to COVID-related issues (483 as of 12/7/20) on top of normal vacancies (~ 500) due to unfilled positions, and staff out for military service or on medical leave. At this time, 107 front line staff positions (Officer and Sergeant job classes) are vacant. In light of these challenges, DOC has a continued focus on wellness to ensure employees are adhering to COVID-19 protocols to minimize exposure while at work and off work. Because of the high number of facilities in Phase III operations and the high numbers of staff quarantined, the Department is having to implement minimum staffing levels in the prisons which, in turn, requires those staff that are reporting to work longer hours to cover shifts. The Department is implementing temporary measures to help counter the COVID-related workload challenges. These actions include recruiting retired DOC staff for part-time positions, utilizing temporary staffing agency contracts for medical needs (costs are increasing as DOC is competing with other agencies/states for these same staffing needs), and temporarily reassigning Community Parole Officers to provide facility security.*

Recruitment efforts and retention data remain similar to pre-pandemic reporting. Recently, there have been candidates that declined positions prior to reporting to their assignments based on their concerns for the potential exposure to COVID-19. Although the Department continues to utilize a robust effort to recruit, the pandemic has created challenges with how the Department conducts recruiting. All efforts are now performed remotely/virtually which creates numerous challenges. Based on budgetary concerns, the Department's ability to offer incentive/sign-on pay has diminished; however, the Department has utilized discretionary pay for correctional workers when they report to a facility that is in Phase III operations due to COVID-19 outbreaks.

7 [Rep. Exum] Can DOC and DPS-DCJ work together to respond to the high number of DOC COVID cases? Are inmates being moved to community corrections to mitigate the virus spread? If not, why not?

Response: *In order to be responsible and reduce the potential spread of the COVID virus to community corrections programs, the Department did not release inmates to community corrections from facilities on Phase III operations. After consideration and cooperation with the Office of Community Corrections and community corrections providers, the Department will now release inmates approved for community corrections if the program is willing to accept the inmate after being quarantined and tested, regardless of the specific phase a facility may be on.*

8 [Sen. Moreno] Please provide and discuss data related to county jail capacity and vacancies.

Response: *The Department does not track the number of vacancies in county jails as it does not have access to this information. As of December 7, 2020, there are 1,085 inmates waiting to be transferred to DOC. The details on the jail backlog are shown below:*

Department of Corrections Jail Backlog as of 12/7/2020

County	Jail Backlog Males	Jail Backlog Females	Technical Parole Violators	YOS	Community Regressions	Total
Adams	78	9	2			89
Alamosa	6	1				7
Arapahoe	78	5	1			84
Archuleta	0	1				1
Baca	0	1				1
Bent	7		1			8
Boulder	21	1	2			24
Broomfield	6					6
Chaffee	3					3
Cheyenne	1					1
Clear Creek	4					4
Conejos	2					2
Costilla	1					1
Delta	1					1
Denver	139	10	9	2		160
Douglas	13	1				14
Eagle	3	1				4
Elbert	2					2
El Paso	105	16	2	2		125
Fremont	8	2				10
Garfield	6					6
Gilpin	3					3
Huerfano	2					2
Jefferson	52	4		1		57
Kit Carson	2					2
Lake	1					1
La Plata	8	1	2			11
Larimer	42	6	2			50
Las Animas	5	3				8
Lincoln	3					3
Logan	7	1				8
Mesa	38	8				46
Moffat	1					1
Montezuma	9	1				10
Montrose	11					11
Morgan	6					6
Otero	6	5				11
Prowers	6	9				15
Pueblo	26					26
Rio Blanco	1					1

Department of Corrections Jail Backlog as of 12/7/2020						
County	Jail Backlog Males	Jail Backlog Females	Technical Parole Violators	YOS	Community Regressions	Total
Rio Grande	4	2				6
Routt	2					2
Saguache	1		1			2
San Miguel	2					2
Sedgwick	4					4
Teller	7		1			8
Washington	7	6	9			22
Weld	48		1	1		50
Yuma	2					2
Interstate Compact	1					1
TOTAL	791	94	33	6	161	1,085

9 [Rep. Herod] Describe what is actually occurring related to changes in the absconded population. Are these intentional actions, or are they related to technological challenges? Are there solutions the General Assembly can consider to address this issue?

Response: *There are several common reasons for a parolee to be absent without permission (AWOL). These include:*

- *Supervision avoidance, in general;*
- *Housing/familial/personal instability and/or emergencies;*
- *Gang-related activity and/or avoidance;*
- *Addiction-related issues;*
- *Commission of new crimes/violations for which the population is looking to avoid jail time and/or assumed consequences for that violation/crime.*

In speculation, one key factor for the increase in AWOL may also be a parolee's knowledge that many jails are not accepting technical parole violators and therefore are more inclined to not adhere to the required contact and reporting associated with parole. Additionally, substance use is another potential factor in those that abscond.

Technology is something the Division of Adult Parole utilizes to both interact with and monitor clients; examples include telephonic, video chat, and GPS units. However, it is rare for an AWOL determination/assignment to be made without known collateral contact attempts (sponsor, family, emergency contacts) and attempts to locate via residence, employment, and treatment contacts. The exception to this is when a parolee removes their monitoring equipment.

That someone is unable to maintain telephone/internet services, thereby limiting their ability to interact via web-based applications, does not in and of itself render them an absconder, e.g., a missed call, failed to call in at a prescribed time, etc. The Division employs curbside check-ins with clients as a way of

interacting with them in a COVID-19 environment, in addition to the technological interactions. Additionally, the Division operates a 24/7 “1-800” call-in line/command center so assistance is readily available for those who report in after-hours following a missed appointment or emergency situation.

A number of ideas are currently being discussed among the members of the General Assembly and other stakeholders. The Department remains committed to partnering with others to continue reforming the criminal justice system, including addressing the current absconder issue.

10 *[Rep. Herod] Please provide additional details about the Back on Track program, including an estimate of state savings, if applicable.*

Response: *Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, the number of parole absconders has risen significantly. The numbers have gone up by approximately 85% with a total of 1,408 absconders as of November 30, 2020.*

In an effort to curb this growth, the Division of Adult Parole is offering the “Parole Back on Track” program beginning November 30, 2020 through December 11, 2020. The goal of this program is to re-engage with parolees that absconded and get them back under supervision. The intention of his initiative is to increase public safety by assisting parolees that may be in crisis while reducing the impact on already strained jails and the prison system. The ability to be granted a second chance for a minor misstep will hopefully have long-term positive outcomes toward successful re-entry.

The Division employed a variety of methods to communicate the initiative to absconders to include letters to absconders’ last known addresses, emails, and flyer notifications; examples of these notifications are found in the Appendix. The Division also teamed with its Work and Gain Education and Employment Skills (WAGEES) community partners to assist in sharing this information. When an absconded parolee calls an office, they are directed to the appropriate field office. Once the report, the following process is followed:

- 1. Parolee meets with a Community Parole Officer (CPO).*
- 2. CPO will check CCIC/NCIC for warrants.*
- 3. If there is only a DOC warrant, the CPO will cancel the warrant.*
- 4. CPO will update the parolee’s contact information, including current address and phone number.*
- 5. CPO will update the case plan according to the assessed needs of the parolee.*
- 6. CPO will refer the individual to re-entry services, Employment Training Navigator, or Mental Health clinician, as needed. A referral to treatment will also be entered as needed.*
- 7. CPO will enter a referral to WAGEES, if appropriate.*
- 8. If the parolee has a non-DOC warrant, the case will be staffed with the office supervisor or manager. Staffing will also include coordination with local jails to determine if the warrant will be maintained or withdrawn by the local jurisdiction.*
- 9. Parolee will not be arrested for a DOC warrant regardless of LSI score/CARAS score/current conviction and/or length of time on abscond status.*

It is difficult to calculate the fiscal savings from the Back on Track initiative. Following the second week of this program, the Division will determine the total number of parolees that reengaged with supervision.

Using this number, a cost avoidance can be estimated based on the per diem that will not be spent for jail time.

Appendix - Back on Track Examples



COLORADO

Department of Corrections

Division of Adult Parole

940 Broadway
Denver, CO 80203
303.763.2420
www.doc.state.co.us

November 15, 2020

Dear Parolee:

If you are receiving this letter, you have been considered an absconder/fugitive from parole supervision. This typically means that your residence of record has become unknown and /or you have failed to report in person to a parole office as required.

The good news is that you may be eligible for an opportunity to get your parole "Back on Track." The Division of Adult Parole will be offering a two week period for parole absconders to report to a parole office, specifically to get their parole "Back on Track." This will occur during the weeks of November 30th to December 4th and December 7th to December 11th, 2020.

The goal of this event will be to re-engage with you and get you back in compliance with your supervision. In these uncertain times, we hope that the ability to be granted a second chance for a minor violation will have long term positive outcomes toward your successful re-entry.

Please see the attached informational flyer related to the "Parole Back on Track" plan. You can call CWISE at **1-800-426-9143** or send an email to DOC_Parolebackontrack@state.co.us - with any follow-up questions.

You may also report in person to a parole office at any time. Parole Office locations are as follows:

Alamosa - 915 4th St. Alamosa, CO 81101 - # 719-589-1980

Aurora - 14707 East 2nd Avenue Aurora, CO 80011 - # 303-366-3669

Canon City - 100 Main St Canon City, CO 81212 - # 719-269-5851

Colorado Springs - 888 W Garden of the Gods Rd - Colorado Spring, CO - # 719-633-1469

Craig - 109 East Victory Way Craig, CO 81625 - # 970-824-6633

Denver - 940 Broadway Denver, CO 80203 - # 303-763-2420



West Denver - 236 Wyandot St. Denver, CO 80223 - # 303-777-5765

Durango - 1073 Main St. Durango, CO 81301 - # 970-259-1536

Englewood - 3642 S Galapago St. Englewood, CO 80110 - # 303-761-2670

Fort Collins - 3000 S College Ave. Ste. 110 Fort Collins, CO 80525 - # 970-223-2232

Grand Junction - 2516 Foresight Cir Ste. 3. Grand Junction, CO 81505 - # 970-255-9126

Greeley - 3257 W. 20th St. Greeley, CO 80634 - # 970-356-0839

La Junta - 617 Raton Ste. 2 La Junta, CO 81050 - # 719-383-0404

Longmont - 310 Lashley St. Ste. 100 Longmont, CO 80504 - # 303-678-9941

Montrose - 3045 Aerotech Parkway Ste. 5 Montrose, CO - 81404 - # 970-249-8627

Pueblo - 4109 N Elizabeth St. Pueblo, CO 81008 - # 719-546-0009

Rifle - 1417 Airport Rd. Rifle, CO 81650 - # 970-625-6156

Sterling - 226 N. 3rd St. Sterling, CO 80751 - # 970-522-7815

Westminster - 8800 Sheridan Blvd Westminster, CO 80031 - # 303-426-6198

Again, please call CWISE at **1-800-426-9143** or send an email to DOC_Parolebackontrack@state.co.us - with any follow-up questions.

Sincerely,

David M. Johnson
Director

That is what life is about. We do not get redos, but we do get second chances. -JEFFREY FRY





Are you an absconder?

GET YOUR PAROLE BACK ON TRACK

WHEN:

November 30 - December 4, 2020

December 7 - December 11, 2020

8am-5pm / Monday - Friday

WHERE:

Parole Offices Statewide

HOW:

call CWISE at 1-800-426-9143

CALL:

⇒ 1-800-426-9143

VISIT:

⇒ Parole Offices Statewide

EMAIL:

⇒ DOC_parolebackontrack@state.co.us

CALL:

⇒ 1-800-426-9143

VISIT:

⇒ Parole Offices Statewide

EMAIL:

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VISIT:

⇒ Parole Offices Statewide

EMAIL:

⇒ DOC_parolebackontrack@state.co.us

EMAIL: DOC_parolebackontrack@state.co.us

Parole Back on Track – Q&A

Q: What is considered absconding?

Q: How does absconding impact me?

Q: Is there a way to fix this?

Q: Am I eligible to get my parole back on track?

Q: How do I get my parole back on track?

Q: Will I be arrested?

Q: What should I bring with me?

Don't put it off any longer!

A: When you have not reported to the parole office, have changed your residence without your Community Parole Officer's (CPO) knowledge and your whereabouts are unknown to your CPO resulting in a warrant for your arrest.

A: When a parole complaint is filed and a warrant is issued for absconding, your parole time stops running.

A: Yes. With the Parole Back on Track effort, there will be a short time frame during which you can get your parole back on track without penalty.

A: Yes, under certain conditions. These include not having any warrants for a felony, or a crime of violence.

A: You can either **call CWISE at 1-800-426-9143** and leave a message for your CPO to make contact and arrange to report, email, OR walk into the nearest parole office to report in person.

A: The plan is No. However, under some circumstances you may need to clear a warrant in order to avoid being arrested later. In those circumstances, you may be booked into, or processed through, a city or county. In those scenarios, the good news is that your CPO will not place a parole "hold" and you will likely be eligible to be released on a bond.

A: Preferably some form of identification. If you do not have an ID, please try to bring other identifying documents. ***Please no guests due to COVID=19**

1-800-426-9143 / DOC_parolebackontrack@state.co.us



Joint Budget Committee FY 2021-2022 Budget Hearing

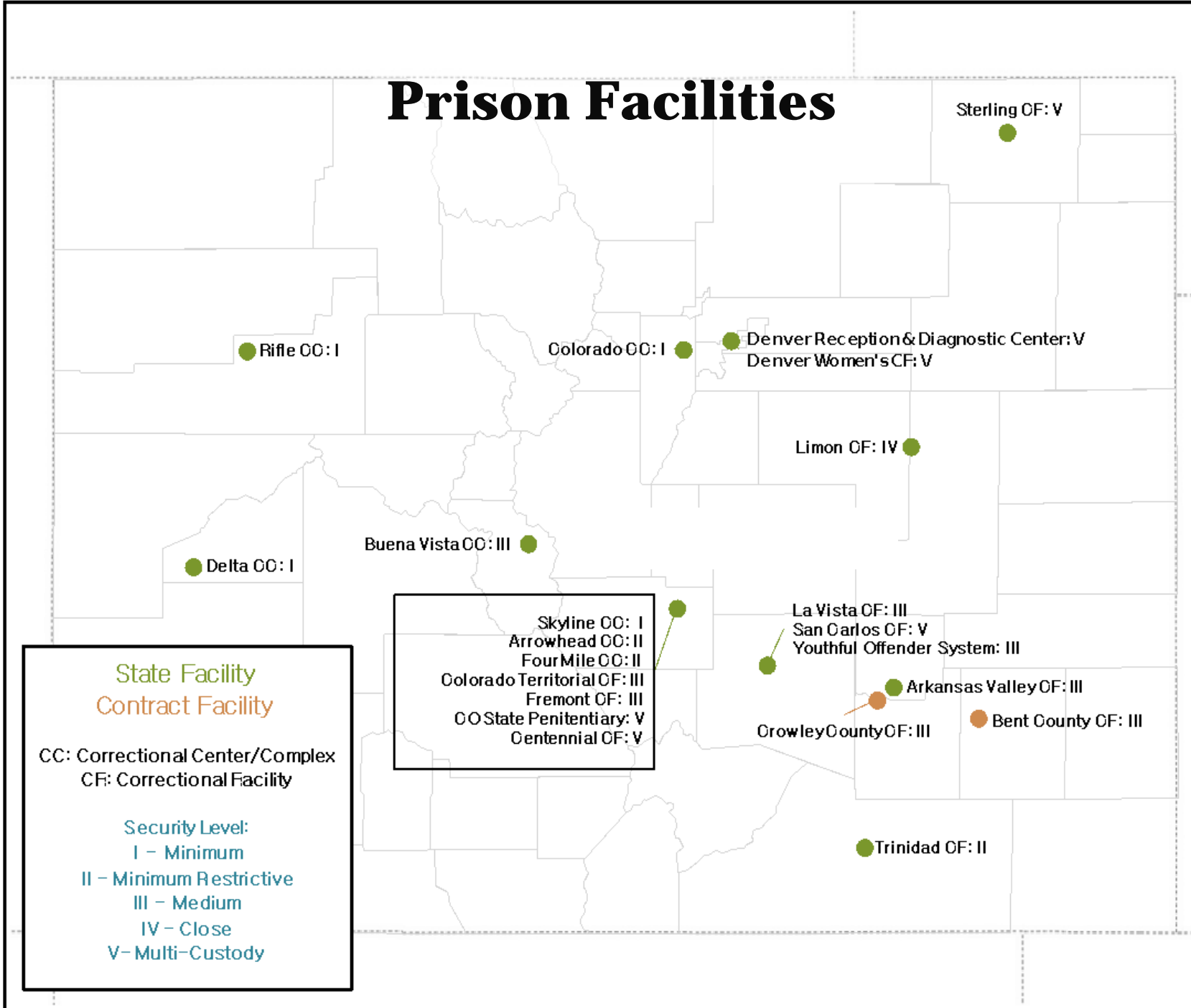
**Colorado Department of Corrections
Dean Williams, Executive Director**

December 15, 2020

Overview



Prison Facilities



State Facility

Contract Facility

CC: Correctional Center/Complex
CF: Correctional Facility

Security Level:

I - Minimum

II - Minimum Restrictive

III - Medium

IV - Close

V - Multi-Custody

Skyline CC: I
Arrowhead CC: II
Four Mile CC: II
Colorado Territorial CF: III
Fremont OF: III
CO State Penitentiary: V
Centennial CF: V

La Vista CF: III
San Carlos CF: V
Youthful Offender System: III

Arkansas Valley CF: III
Crowley County CF: III
Bent County CF: III

Trinidad OF: II

Rifle CC: I

Colorado CC: I

Denver Reception & Diagnostic Center: V
Denver Women's CF: V

Limon OF: IV

Buena Vista CC: III

Delta CC: I

Sterling OF: V



2020-2021 Wildly Important Goals (WIGs)

WIG #1: Decrease the Recidivism Rate

WIG #2: Increase the Percentage of Medication Assisted Treatment Participation

WIG #3: Decrease Staff Turnover Rate and Improve the Culture



5% HLD Reduction

- Open vacant positions stay vacant
- Reduced targets for overtime pay
- Discontinued hiring incentives
- Reducing personal service contracts
- Added furlough days to 1,800 employees (4,200 exempt)
- Paused pay adjustments to fix compression pay
- Greater reliance on CARES Act funding for pandemic response

Positions Eliminated/Transferred

Skyline Correctional Center **53**

La Vista **9**

Correctional Industries **18**

International Corr. Mgt.
Training Center **23**



Confirmed Offender cases

6,165

Tested: 17,711

Active: 1,859 Deaths: 15

Confirmed staff cases

1,053

Active: 248 Recovered: 805

Number of staff on leave due to symptoms or possible exposure: 452

There are many FREE community testing sites available across the state. You can locate a community testing site location by going to: <https://covidtest.colorado.gov/map>

Offender information

Facility	Number of tests administered	Positive Offenders*	Active Cases**	Deaths***
ACC	3,758	314	92	
AVCF	3,450	889	120	3
BVCC	14,527	343	50	
CCC	1,019	1	0	
CCF	8,679	76	16	
CSP	3,279	32	1	
CTCF	5,574	520	190	1
DCC	958	48	37	
DRDC	5,275	9	3	
DWCF	6,463	58	44	
FCF	12,356	745	17	4
FMCC	2,013	394	43	
LCF	2,183	505	499	
LVCF	1,985	10	0	
RCC	502	1	0	
SCCF	1,770	9	0	
SCC	91			
SCF	17,305	1,136	319	6
TCF	1,603	4	1	
YOS	520	141	0	
BCCF	5,087	520	388	
CCCF	10,928	412	39	1
TOTAL	109,325	6,167	1,859	15

Orange text identifies facilities on Phase III

Current Population: 13,935
Vacancy rate: 23.08%

Operational Updates

All facilities are on a reduced staffing pattern and operational schedule to promote social distancing. All facilities are currently operating on modified Phase II operations other than those listed.

The following facilities are on Phase III modified operations:

- ACC
- AVCF
- BVCC
- CCF
- CTCF
- DWCF
- FCF
- FMCC
- LVCF
- SCCF
- SCF
- TCF
- YOS
- CCCF
- BCCF
- LCF
- DCC

*These numbers reflect the number of inmates that tested positive while assigned to each facility. The same inmate may be counted more than once at different facilities if they tested positive at different facilities (although transportation is extremely limited, it may be necessary at some times). Given that an inmate may be tested multiple times while at the same facility, this number does not count multiple positive tests for the same inmate at the same facility. The number may also include information from inmate testing that was not conducted by DOC (for example: and inmate tested at a hospital or other location)

** This is the number of individual inmates that have tested positive in the last 14 days.

***Deaths listed on this tracker are deaths of inmates who demonstrated symptoms or were tested for COVID-19. Only the appropriate Coroner's Office can determine the official cause of death. This information does not include inmates who may have had COVID-19 and recovered prior to being admitted into the DOC.



COVID-19 Pandemic Response

- Deployed mass prevalence testing to all at-risk facilities
- Implemented cleaning protocols, purchased electrostatic spray guns, and UV sanitizers for distribution across the state
- Deployed communications strategy for inmates and their loved ones
- Contracted with EMS provider for on site crews at crucial facilities
- Established mask program to deploy to all staff and inmates
- Providing extra soap and cleaning supplies to inmates
- Utilizing telehealth/ telemedicine appointments when appropriate



COVID-19 Response- Inmate Movement

- Inmates from county jails quarantined for 14 days at CCF-S, tested at least twice
- Jail testing or symptom monitoring required before intake to DOC
- Intake periodically suspended
- After quarantine period, transferred to DRDC for assessments
- Tested at DRDC – if negative, transferred to final destination facility
- Limited inter-facility movement at all stages



COVID-19 Response- Cohorting and Releases

- Goal to reduce exposure
- Separated by work group, infection risk, infection status, exposure
- Recovered individuals are separated from all populations until evaluated to go into general population
- Individuals are tested and quarantined prior to release
- Anyone returning from a scheduled court appearance or returning from a hospital is quarantined



COVID-19 Response- Management

- Incident Command Center activated, coordinates daily
- Experts hired include a COVID Response Manager, Epidemiologist, dedicated Clinical Nurse for contact tracing and staff management
- Participation in State Emergency Operations Center
- Daily Executive Staff coordination meetings
- Regular, frequent coordination with CDPHE



COVID-19 Response- Public Information

- Dashboard updated daily
- Regularly updated FAQ and other operational information posted to website
- Press released related to COVID issued frequently
- Other resources for friends and family members with loved ones who are incarcerated
- <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdoc/covid-19-faq-and-updates>



COVID-19 Response- Connection to Family and Friends

- Weekly livestream updates answering questions that are submitted by friends and family
- Designated constituent services team that responds to inquiries from the general public
- Information on the Department's social media channels.
- Free phone calls and visits for inmate families
- Hosting regular town hall meetings where stakeholders can ask live questions
- Participating in virtual community events/ town halls to provide communities with information



COVID-19 Response- Staff Health

- Triage and Volunteer rapid response team established to ensure swift diagnosis and treatment of staff
- 65 staff members support COVID operations statewide
- Daily BinaxNow screenings at all facilities
- PCR testing at all facilities at least once per week
 - 59,281 tests administered
 - 3,865 employees triaged out of the office
 - 3,382 employees returned to work
 - 483 currently out as of December 8th, 2020



COVID 19 Response- Challenges

- Workforce Issues

- Over 1,000 positions out between COVID infections, vacancies
 - Stiff competition for temporary contract clinical workers
 - Actively recruiting retired DOC staff for part-time positions
 - Reassigning community parole officers for facility security

- PPE inventory

- Competitive market
 - Fluctuation/limitations of state supplies
 - Additional purchases through CARES Act funding

- Training

- Reduced Training Academy schedules
 - Adapted to virtual trainings where possible



COVID 19 Response- Vaccinations

- Correctional Workers are included in Phase 1B of the vaccine distribution schedule
- At-risk incarcerated individuals are included in Phase 2
- The remainder of the incarcerated population will receive the vaccine during Phase 3
- Purchased vaccination freezer to prepare for distribution



Community Corrections- DOC/DPS Coordination

- For most of the Pandemic, DOC did not release inmates into Community Corrections from facilities under Phase III operations
- Coordinating with DPS Office of Community Corrections and providers to develop quarantine and testing protocols
- Department will release to Community Corrections after protocols are met, with the cooperation of providers



Jail Backlog

- Males 791
- Females 94
- Technical Parole Violators 33
- YOS 6
- Community Regressions 161

Total Jail Backlog as of December 7th 1,085

DOC does not have the ability to track infection rate data in County Jails.



Absconded Population

Up 85% March through November, currently 1,400

Common reasons:

- Housing/familial/personal instability and or emergencies
- Addiction related issues
- Supervision avoidance in general
- Gang related activity
- Commission of new crimes/violations for which the population is looking to avoid jail time and/or assumed consequences

Key factors:

- Intake restrictions in jails affect capacity for technical parole violators
- Stretched community resources



Back on Track Program

Goal: To re-engage with absconded parolees and get them back under supervision

Intent: Grant a second chance to parolees that may be in crisis and reduce the impact on jails and the prison system

- Parolee contacts parole officer
- Back on Track program information provided for resources
- No arrest
- DOC warrants are cancelled; non-DOC warrants reviewed with local jurisdictions
- Update contact information and case plan for parolee
- Refer to appropriate re-entry services
 - Treatment
 - Employment
 - WAGEES

Data to be collected after expiration of the program mid-December.



Questions?