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Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

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## Hutchinson Correctional Facility on Lockdown Due to Additional COVID-19 Cases

TOPEKA, Kansas – Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) Secretary Jeff Zmuda announced today that a lockdown has been implemented at the Hutchinson Correctional Facility (HCF) Central Unit after testing revealed additional staff and residents as positive for COVID-19.

In total, 84 residents and 10 staff tested positive this week. A total of 99 residents and 17 staff have tested positive since the COVID-19 pandemic began with five residents and seven staff having recovered. All of the positive cases are asymptomatic.

As with all positive cases, the KDOC has been in consultation with officials from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) on next steps to address the active cases at HCF. Additional steps taken today include:

- All residents in the Central Unit will remain locked in their cells
- Necessary movement will be done in cohort groups
- Essential resident workers in laundry and food service will continue to operate on a limited schedule
- Some residents may be relocated to Lansing Correctional Facility's COVID-19 Medical Unit

"KDHE has been on site to evaluate the situation and work with us to determine the best course of action," Zmuda said. "The measures taken today will help mitigate the

risk of continued exposure at the facility, helping ensure the health and safety of our staff and residents."

The Hutchinson Correctional Facility is Kansas' second-oldest prison and houses 1,884 men. Formerly known as the Kansas State Industrial Reformatory, the facility has three buildings including the Central (all custody levels), East (low-medium custody) and South (minimum custody) units.

For current information on COVID-19 in Kansas, and to sign up for updates, go to the KDHE COVID-19 Resource Center at kdhe.ks.gov/coronavirus

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