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Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: Family Members

From: Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Date: May 13, 2020

Re: Coronavirus Updates

Today we are reporting our second staff member death due to COVID-19. This man was a near 20-year veteran of the Kansas Department of Corrections. Our hearts go out to his family, his friends and his Lansing Correctional Facility coworkers along with all those who have lost loved ones and friends during this pandemic. We remain committed to your loved one's health and safety. If your loved one has a concern, they should speak with their Unit Team for resolution.

Many are wondering when KDOC will re-instate visitation. Under the Governor's plan the earliest that we could resume this service would be after June 1, 2020. Please know that due to the number of cases we are seeing, we may not be ready and would delay even further. Our experience at Lansing was that our first positive case was about one month after the first confirmed cases in the Kansas City metro area, so our reopening may need to be slower than other public activities. Each phase of the Governor's plan is dependent upon reaching certain milestones in COVID-19 testing rates, hospitalizations, ability to conduct contact tracing and availability of personal protective equipment. The state is also advising that in addition to the state-wide plan, local counties can also issue stricter guidance so please be paying attention to what the rules are in your county. We will need to continue our efforts toward social distancing, cleanliness and good hygiene practices for us to ensure the health and safety of those within our care.

We know how difficult this is on you and your loved ones and will keep you updated as we get closer to a decision on visitation. In the meantime, I would like to again encourage you to keep up your support of your family member through your regular letters and phone calls. We all need the support of each other during these hard times.

We hope to share final LCF testing data in tomorrow's communication. To see the most up-to-date numbers of COVID-19 cases in the Kansas Department of Corrections, visit <https://www.doc.ks.gov/kdoc-coronavirus-updates/kdoc-covid-19-status>.