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Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: Juvenile and Adult Facility Residents

From: Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Date: April 20, 2020

Re: Coronavirus Updates

I hope you were able to have a restful weekend in preparation for a new week. We will continue our daily communications this week to make sure you are well informed of the most recent developments.

We continued monitoring and testing of our population over the weekend and the number of those testing positive for the COVID-19 virus did increase a bit. As of today, the total number of COVID-19 positive cases that we've seen include 40 residents at LCF, and one Wichita Work Release Facility resident, currently housed at LCF. We also have 132 residents in quarantine at LCF who have not tested positive for the virus but remain under observation and monitoring. In terms of staff, we now have 47 staff at Lansing Correctional Facility (LCF) and one employee at Topeka Correctional Facility that have all tested positive for the virus. We continue our collaboration with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to develop strategies and tactics to mitigate the spread of the virus.

Topeka Correctional Facility is now our third location to have a positive case identified. Warden Geither has been very proactive, implementing social distancing practices even prior to this announcement. Women now come to the chow hall to pick up their food but take their food back to their living units to eat. In the chow hall, there are tape lines on the floor to ensure that women are not too close together, similar to what many of you see in grocery stores today. We know that the news of this positive case is disheartening, it is for us as well. We continue to educate our staff on ways to keep themselves, and those around them, healthy.

Each facility's overall pandemic plan looks a little different due to differences in infrastructure, but one central theme is open communication. All our wardens and management team are being encouraged to reach out to see what concerns you may have. That may look slightly different at each facility, but please take advantage of those opportunities when they arise.