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Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

To: Juvenile and Adult Facility Residents and Family Members

From: Jeff Zmuda, Secretary

Date: November 10, 2021

Re: Coronavirus and KDOC updates

Tomorrow – Thursday, November 11 – is the day our nation has set aside to honor our veterans. On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, World War I formally came to an end as hostilities ceased. The first Veterans Day (known originally as Armistice Day) was observed a year later. In 1926 Congress passed a resolution for the annual observance, and in 1938 the day became a national holiday. Understanding the history of this day is interesting, but the value and importance of such a day comes from pausing to acknowledge the commitment and sacrifice made by the men and women who have served – and who are currently serving - our nation in the armed forces. We owe them a debt that can never be repaid, and we thank them for their service.

Some of you will have heard by now of the vicious attack on one of our staff members by a resident at Lansing Correctional Facility last Wednesday, November 3. The incident remains under investigation at this time, and once that is complete the findings will be presented to the appropriate authorities for criminal prosecution. Please join me in praying for this staff member and a full and speedy recovery from the injuries.

KDOC sent a memo to residents and families on Thursday, Nov. 4, 2021 regarding canteen spending. This holiday season the Kansas Department of Corrections is providing an allowance of an additional \$100 for spending through canteen/commissary beginning November 6, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021. Special items will be available for purchase through canteen during this period. Residents who are ineligible for canteen purchase will not receive the additional spending allowance. For those residents who do not have general canteen privileges, they are restricted to only those items they are eligible to purchase. There are other restrictions that apply so make sure you review the guidelines.

KDOC has begun to offer COVID-19 vaccine booster shots within facilities. Please watch for additional information to take advantage of this opportunity. If you have not yet received any COVID-19 vaccination, these also continue to be available to residents.