

#### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

## DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR

# NOLAN P. ESPINDA DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Jul. 17, 2020

### NO CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID WITHIN HAWAII INMATE POPULATION AT SAGUARO CORRECTIONAL CENTER

### 80 under precautionary monitoring

HONOLULU – There are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 among any Hawaii inmates housed at the Saguaro Correctional Center (SCC) in Eloy, Arizona. Saguaro's parent company, CoreCivic, confirms that 69 offenders from Nevada, housed in a separate part of the facility, tested positive for COVID-19. There are a total 80 Hawaii inmates in quarantine. Of the 80, through contact tracing it was determined that 28 Hawaii inmates may have had possible contact with them. As a precautionary measure, the 28 Hawaii inmates were relocated to vacant housing and will be monitored for symptoms for 14 days, to include daily temperature checks. In addition, 47 Hawaii inmates housed in the same restrictive housing unit with other jurisdictions are being monitored for symptoms for 14 days, to include daily temperature checks. The remaining 5 Hawaii inmates are housed in the medical unit for routine medical appointments unrelated to the precautionary monitoring. Hawaii inmates housed in general population have not been affected. No Hawaii inmates are exhibiting symptoms of any infectious respiratory illnesses.

"The Department is in constant communication with the Saguaro facility administration. They assure us they are proactively taking all necessary precautions to mitigate any potential spread of the virus inside their facility, to include continual, enhanced screening of anyone entering the facility, and monitoring inmates and staff for signs and symptoms due to possible exposure," said Nolan Espinda, Public Safety Director.

SCC's total overall bed capacity is 1926. As of today, Hawaii inmates occupy a total of 1125 beds. There are two other states whose inmates occupy beds at Saguaro. The State of Nevada currently occupies 99 beds and the State of Kansas occupies 120 beds. Total inmates from the three states stands at 1344, well below the overall bed capacity.

For more information on CoreCivic's planning and response to COVID-19 visit their dedicated COVID-19 section of their webpage at: <a href="https://www.corecivic.com/covid-19-response">https://www.corecivic.com/covid-19-response</a>.

For more information on PSD's planning and response to COVID-19, inmate testing data, and information detailing the efforts made to safeguard the inmates, staff and public, visit our webpage at: <a href="http://dps.hawaii.gov/blog/2020/03/17/coronavirus-covid-19-information-and-resources/">http://dps.hawaii.gov/blog/2020/03/17/coronavirus-covid-19-information-and-resources/</a>

For the latest corrections population reports go

to: https://dps.hawaii.gov/about/divisions/corrections/

###

Toni Schwartz
Public Information Officer
Hawaii Department of Public Safety

Office: <u>808-587-1358</u> Cell: <u>808-683-5507</u>

Toni.E.Schwartz@hawaii.gov

http://hawaii.gov/psd/