

Nevada Department of Corrections

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Press Release

For Immediate Release: March 26, 2020

Nevada Department of Corrections Confirms First Case of COVID-19

The Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC) announces its first confirmed case of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) affecting an employee at High Desert State Prison (HDSP), located north of Las Vegas, NV.

"Our top priority is the health of staff and inmates at our facilities," said Charles Daniels, NDOC Director. "Our preparation and response is deliberate and in accordance with agency contingency plans and protocols. Now that we have a confirmed case, our next goal is mitigating and ultimately preventing the sustained spread of COVID-19."

To contain the virus at HDSP, NDOC has implemented procedures consistent with national and state health and human services guidelines. These procedures include:

- The employee self-quarantining at home.
- HDSP inmates being isolated in their cells.
- NDOC medical staff will continue observing inmates and staff for signs of the virus, which include coughing, fever, and shortness of breath.
- Surface Sanitation Teams, using a 10% bleach concentration solution will continue to thoroughly clean surfaces at all facilities.

NDOC will continue to closely monitor the situation at HDSP and all other NDOC facilities as it continues to work closely with local and state public health officials to ensure the health and safety of staff and inmates.

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The Nevada Department of Corrections is committed to building a safer community by striving to incorporate progressive best practices in all aspects of corrections. NDOC houses nearly 14,000 persons with felony convictions in 18 facilities statewide. For more information visit www.doc.nv.gov.