

Department of Public Safety COVID-19 Update for 11/18/20

8 Positive at Waiawa Correctional Facility, Inmate Mass Testing Continues

The Waiawa Correctional Facility has confirmed eight (8) inmates tested positive for COVID-19. The inmates were placed in medical isolation yesterday while they awaited test results. The confirmed positive results were received this morning. There are two (2) other inmates also in medical isolation with pending test results and 130 inmates have been placed under quarantine as a precaution. The Department of Health (DOH) is conducting contact tracing. PSD staff were notified and encouraged to contact their health care providers if they have questions about possible exposure.

PSD's Health Care Division has already mobilized its nursing staff for testing all inmates that had close contact. They are working with DOH to coordinate staff testing with National Guard assistance. All staff are already in full PPE and the warden has halted all inmate movement to prevent further transmission within the facility and to other facilities.

DOH testing of O'ahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC) inmates and staff is continuous. Of the 196 OCCC inmate test results received, four (4) were positive and 192 were negative. There are no OCCC inmates in the hospital. All 20 OCCC staff test results were negative. Additionally, 91% of PSD staff who tested positive for COVID-19 have recovered. Information on PSD's planning and response to COVID-19 can be found at: <http://dps.hawaii.gov/blog/2020/03/17/coronavirus-covid-19-information-and-resources/>.