Department of Public Safety COVID-19 Update for 12/22/20:
Two Deputy Sheriffs Test Positive, OCCC/Saguaro Clear of Virus, Inmate and Staff Testing Continues

PSD was notified that two (2) deputy sheriffs on O‘ahu reported positive test results. The employees last worked on Dec. 18, 2020 at Ka‘ahumanu Hale (First Circuit Court) and the Sheriff Division booking/receiving office. The Judiciary and DOH were notified. PSD staff working in that section were also notified and encouraged to contact their health care providers if they have any questions about possible exposure. DOH is conducting contact tracing.

The Halawa Correctional Facility (HCF) reported 102 more inmate test results as part of surge testing efforts. Of that total, six (6) were positive and 96 were negative. There is one (1) HCF inmate in the hospital. There were three (3) new positive HCF staff results reported but eight (8) staff have been cleared to return to work, dropping the total active positive staff down to 39. Surge testing, with the assistance of DOH, the Hawai‘i National Guard and Project Vision Hawai‘i, will continue until there are no new positive cases at the facility.

All other facilities that experienced outbreaks have brought their COVID-19 count under control. The O‘ahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC) has zero (0) active positive inmates. The Saguaro Correctional Center in Eloy, AZ is also clear of the virus in their facility. There are three (3) inmates in an Arizona hospital who are expected to be medically cleared later this week. The Waiawa Correctional Facility reports 16 negative test results and has only three (3) active positive cases, including one (1) hospitalized inmate.

“As of today, the OCCC and Saguaro facilities are clear of the virus,” said PSD Director Max Otani. “Waiawa hasn’t had a positive test result in almost two weeks. Halawa is in the middle of their surge testing but I am confident they are turning the corner and are bringing their situation under control. I am very proud of our facility and health care staff for all the hard work and long hours they have put in to mitigate spread and quickly contain the virus in their facilities.”

For more information on PSD’s planning and response efforts to COVID-19: 