



# COVID-19 Employee and Offender Status Update.

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AUSTIN, TX (April 13, 2020) –As of Friday, April 11, 2020, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice has reported 72 total Board, TDCJ employees, staff or contractors and 167 offenders in custody who have tested positive for COVID-19.

As of April 8, 2020, any office/facility with a confirmed positive offender or employee COVID-19 test will be placed on a precautionary lockdown for at least 14 days from the date of the positive test. This additional proactive step is in addition to existing medical restriction and medical isolation measures already in place.

Facilities currently on precautionary lockdown: Bell; Beto; Byrd; Clements; Darrington; East Texas Treatment Facility; Estelle; Goree; Hutchins; Jordan; LeBlanc; Murray; Robertson; Scott; Smith; Stringfellow; Telford; Terrell; Woodman; and Wynne. Impacted offenders: 26,073.

For a complete list of data please visit: [www.tdcj.texas.gov/covid-19/offender\\_mac.html](http://www.tdcj.texas.gov/covid-19/offender_mac.html)

The Board has distributed cotton masks manufactured by TDCJ to all its staff. Those masks will be required for all personnel working at prison units and optional for those in administrative settings and parole officers in the field. Where appropriate, staff are issued Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). As the Board learns of new positive tests, contact investigations are being conducted to determine which individuals may have been exposed to the virus. The agency is taking appropriate action to mitigate the potential exposure to others including following the Centers for Disease Control guidelines for management of COVID-19 in all BPP offices/facilities.

According to the CDC and the surgeon general of the US, these masks are not intended to be a replacement for six foot social distancing but a supplement to those guidelines. Cotton masks do not protect the wearer from the virus but they can help stop the spread of the virus by the wearer. Everyone is urged to continue to maintain strong workplace disinfecting and personal hygiene practices inside the workplace and out.

As the Board learns of new positive tests, additional information will be posted on this website.

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