DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

NOLAN P. ESPINDA
DIRECTOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 24, 2020

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY COVID-19 INFORMATIONAL AND PROCEDURAL UPDATES (4/24/20)

(HONOLULU) – There are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the prisons or jails.

Hawaii Paroling Authority Update
The Hawaii Paroling Authority (HPA) will resume regular hearings for the determination of minimum terms, Monday, May 4 through Friday, May 8. Parole violation hearings will be held on May 6.

Prior to the COVID crisis the HPA identified 88 individuals pending a parole date set by the HPA Board. To date, HPA has released 57 of the initial 88 cases with 31 cases pending verification of residence and outside programming. Currently there are 71 new cases under review based on the considerations outlined in the Hawaii Supreme Court's order. So far, 27 of the 71 cases have established release dates within the next two (2) weeks.

HPA is also assessing community custody and minimum custody populations across the state, populations with pre-existing conditions as well as elderly inmates, as submitted by the Department of Public Safety to HPA for parole consideration.

Signs have been posted outside offices for parolees and inside for HPA staff with the latest scheduling and office updates. An information hotline was established with recorded updates for the general public at (808) 253-1642. The public can also find the information on the Hawaii Paroling Authority web page.

Jail Population Report
From March 2 to April 24 there has been a substantial decrease in the jail population. This is due to the huge efforts made by the State Judiciary, county police departments and PSD's Intake Service Division as they work together to limit the number of people requiring admittance into the jails. All decreases were pursuant to independently issued court orders.

Jail Population Report			Population Decrease
Facility (Operational Capacity)	2-Mar	24-Apr	
HCCC (226)	395	246	-149
KCCC (128)	143	85	-58
MCCC (301)	450	307	-143
OCCC (954)	1201	835	-366
TOTAL	2189	1473	-716

Inmate Testing

There are currently no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the prisons or jails. The latest Inmate Testing Report can be found on our PSD COVID-19 information and resources webpage.

PSD Purchase of PPE

The Department keeps a regular supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) for normal circumstances, but like all health care workers and first responders across the country, supply on hand was quickly depleting. To get ahead of the need, PSD submitted a large order for extra PPE which was received this week and is in the process of distribution to correctional facilities across the state.

On April 1, PSD put in an order with the Hawaii Correctional Industries for 14,000 cloth face coverings for all staff and inmates. The rollout to PSD's Corrections Division, Health Care Division, Law Enforcement Division, and Administrative Division staff is complete. Orders from the facilities for inmates is underway.

Inmates in the sewing program at the Waiawa Correctional Facility (WCF), Kulani Correctional Facility (KCF) and Hawaii Community Correctional Center (HCCC) are producing as many as 4,000 masks a day. Hawaii Correctional Industries (HCI), which supplied the fabric, sewing supplies and sewing machines for the inmates, is confidently estimating that the program will be able to produce over 300,000 masks by the end of June.

HCI is expanding to include orders for cloth masks from other state agencies and plans to open it up to the public. Hawaii Correctional Industries can be reached at 808-677-6638 or by email at psd.hawaiici@hawaii.gov.

Donations Received

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who has stepped up to donate various qualities of masks and other items to our corrections and law enforcement divisions. PSD has received 700 KN95 and N95 masks, 525 custom made plastic shields, 770 cloth masks and 6,300 surgical grade masks through the generosity of local businesses, other state agencies, non-profit groups, the public and PSD staff. Several facilities have also received public donations including various types of hand sanitizer, soap, sheets, bath towels, plastic barrier building supplies, and even crates of fresh produce.

For a full list of donations received so far and for more information on PSD's response to COVID-19 and information detailing the efforts we have made to safeguard the inmates, staff and public, visit our webpage at:
http://dps.hawaii.gov/blog/2020/03/17/coronavirus-covid-19-information-and-resources/

Please sign up for PSD alerts and notifications through our AlertSense notification system by going to https://hawaiiPSD.myfreealerts.com. Residents can download the free AlertSense mobile app for Android and Apple devices, or text their zip code to 38276 to instantly sign up.

(Note: schedules and information included in this news release are subject to change at a moment's notice as the overall situation and the State's response to COVID-19 evolves day-by-day.)

# # #

Toni Schwartz
Public Information Officer
Hawai'i Department of Public Safety
Office: 808-587-1358
Cell: 808-683-5507
Toni.E.Schwartz@hawaii.gov
http://hawaii.gov/psd/