Community Supervision Restrictions for Office Visits

COMMUNITY SUPERVISION PRECAUTIONS IN RESPONSE TO NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

Effective March 20, 2020 until April 17, 2020

In December 2019, a new respiratory disease called Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) was detected in China. COVID-19 is caused by a virus (SARS-CoV-2) that is part of a large family of viruses called coronaviruses. Recently, community-wide transmission of COVID-19 has occurred in the United States, including New York where the number of both persons under investigation and confirmed cases are rapidly increasing.

The Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) is responsible for the safety, health, rehabilitation, and supervision of nearly 44,000 incarcerated individuals and over 35,000 individuals on community supervision through the tireless efforts of nearly 30,000 employees.

The Department's greatest concern is the safety and well-being of our employees and individuals within our care, custody, and supervision, particularly during this developing public health emergency. To that end, the Department must swiftly impose precautions to prevent additional spread of

infectious viral transmission of COVID-19 in the community writ large.

Effective Friday, March 20, 2020 at 5 PM, all in-person reports of individuals under state community supervision are suspended until April 17, 2020.

As this public health emergency rapidly develops, the Department will closely monitor the situation and extend this precautionary measure to a future date as necessary.

In-Person Parolee Reports Suspended in All Counties

The Department will suspend office reports, including off-site reporting locations, for all persons under community supervision. The temporary suspension of office visits is designed to increase social distancing and minimize group gatherings. The Department's community supervision staff will continue to maintain contact with the parolee population to ensure public safety.

Specifically, parolees will have their in-person supervision contacts suspended until April 17, 2020. Department staff will use technology, such as telephone calls, text messages, videoconferencing, GPS electronic monitoring, and other methods to maintain contact. This electronic contact will count as a positive field contact during this interim period.

The Department takes seriously its duty to ensure the safety and well being of those who supervise or are supervised in the greater community of New York. During this difficult time, the Department appreciates your patience and understanding as we continue to face this virus together.

For further information on COVID-19 and New York's response, please visit:

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH COVID-19 WEBF
(HTTPS://WWW.HEALTH.NY.GOV/DISEASES/COMMUNICABLE/CORONA

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION WEBPAGE

(HTTPS://WWW.CDC.GOV/CORONAVIRUS/2019-NCOV/)

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