NEW MEXICO
CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT
MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR
Alisha Tafoya Lucero, Cabinet Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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March 16, 2020

Additional precautions in response to COVID-19

New temporary visitation changes to be implemented

SANTA FE– The New Mexico Corrections Department is implementing new safeguards in association with statewide efforts to minimize the effect of COVID-19 in New Mexico.

Effective immediately, all visitation is suspended through the end of April 2020. This includes the suspension of contact, non-contact, and attorney visits in all prison facilities. NMCD has recently implemented changes that will increase inmate access to phones. As previously mentioned, our Information and Technology Division will continue working on bringing video visits to state facilities.

This decision is in support of national guidelines and recommendations from the Department of Health and Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham in a joint effort to minimize the spread of the virus.

The Center for Disease Control reports that the virus is spread mainly from person-to-person when an infected person coughs or sneezes, producing respiratory droplets that can reach others who are within about 6 feet. Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham has postponed large events at state-owned venues and declared a public health emergency, as the Department of Health has reported 21 confirmed cases in New Mexico.

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