



NEW MEXICO CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR

Alisha Tafoya Lucero, Cabinet Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Eric Harrison
Public Information Officer, Corrections Department
Eric.harrison@state.nm.us
505-827-8675

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Facility visit changes

Non-contact visits will continue and phone access to be extended

SANTA FE— As part of the collaborative state response to the COVID-19 virus, the New Mexico Corrections Department is making changes to visitation and volunteer activities in prison facilities.

Effective immediately, all contact visitation is suspended through the end of April 2020. Non-contact visitation for immediate family members will be permitted to all eligible inmates as available. To schedule a non-contact visit, please contact the facility at which your family member is located. All facility contact information can be found on our website cd.nm.gov. All previously scheduled non-contact visits will continue as planned. As a result of this change, NMCD will also be increasing inmate access to phones as well as working with our vendors to discuss bringing video visits to the facilities.

Additionally, all volunteer activities in facilities are suspended through the end of April, including events, clubs, and banquets.

These decisions are being made in a shared effort to limit the spread of COVID-19 to the staff, inmates in our care and individuals under supervision.

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 5 confirmed cases in New Mexico.

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