



**May 26, 2021**

The DOC has been working closely with the courts to prepare for the restart of jury trials in June. Reducing the risk of infection and transmission of the disease is critical to maintaining health and safety in DOC facilities and courthouses that are visited by defendants, witnesses, court staff, and members of the public. Every inmate has been offered a COVID vaccine numerous times and more than half of inmates have agreed to receive a COVID vaccine. More inmates are being vaccinated every day.

DOC is continuing to take steps to protect officers, staff, inmates, and facilities from the risk of COVID transmission. That includes comprehensive mitigation procedures in place since March 2020 and new investments in state-of-the-art air purification technology in all facilities. It also includes limiting movement between inmate housing units, aggressive COVID testing, and quarantine where necessary.

Inmates with upcoming trials who have chosen to not be vaccinated will be leaving DOC facilities each day and entering courthouses where they will be in contact with members of the public. The DOC must act responsibly to protect inmates and the public from the increased risk of COVID transmission during trials. Unvaccinated inmates may be quarantined, closely monitored, and tested during their trials as necessary precautions to further limit their risk of being infected and transmitting COVID to others. Unvaccinated inmates in quarantine during trial and until 10 days after their trial date will not have access to commissary, visitation, or GTL tablets during their quarantine. These inmates have been individually informed and written information has been distributed to the inmate population (see following page).

Note: The initial number of unvaccinated inmates subject to June trial-related quarantine is less than 20 inmates statewide. That number could be lower as more inmates choose to be vaccinated. **Inmates with upcoming trials who have been vaccinated will remain in their current housing at their current facility.**



May 24, 2021

**All HRYCI, JTVCC, and SCI inmates with upcoming court dates - be advised:**

- Delaware courts will start in-person trials beginning in June, 2021 with COVID safety measures in place. The courts have urged all court attendees to be vaccinated against COVID to protect themselves and other people.
- **Effective immediately, unvaccinated inmates from HRYCI, JTVCC, and SCI who have upcoming trials and in-person court appearances may be moved to a court quarantine housing unit at JTVCC.** These inmates will be transported from JTVCC to the courthouse each day and return to JTVCC until the trial concludes.
- **Inmates who are fully vaccinated (2+ weeks after their second vaccine dose) will remain in their current housing unit and will not be housed during trial in the court quarantine unit at JTVCC.**
- Unvaccinated inmates who are housed in the court quarantine unit at JTVCC will not be permitted to bring personal property except court-related items from their current facility. Tablets are not available in the court quarantine unit at JTVCC. Inmates who are housed in the court quarantine unit at JTVCC will have access to phone, mail, and their attorneys.
- Every inmate has been offered the COVID vaccine multiple times. To-date more than 2,200 inmates have received a COVID-19 vaccine. The two (2) authorized vaccines that are being provided to inmates are safe and are 95% effective at preventing infection. We highly encourage you to get vaccinated.
- **Submit a sick call to receive your COVID vaccine.**