



NEW MEXICO CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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NMCD announces positive inmate tests

SANTA FE—The New Mexico Corrections Department today announced the first positive test results for inmates at one of the state's 11 prison facilities.

The first positive inmate is a 31 year old male inmate housed at the state contracted Otero County Prison Facility, operated by Management and Training Corporation. On Friday May 15th after reporting that he was feeling ill the inmate was placed in medical separation and was tested for COVID-19. Later that evening medical staff determined that additional medical services were required and he was transported to the University Hospital in El Paso, Texas. The test result returned positive.

Following receipt of the positive result, all inmates in the positive individual's housing unit and any persons that may have had distant contact or shared space with the positive individual were tested. A total of 133 inmate were tested. Results for these additional tests began coming in today, with 20 new inmates producing positive results. The remaining 112 were negative and one test is still pending.

All COVID-19 positive inmates have been separated from the general population and are under medical observation. At present, the NMCD is working closely with the Department of Health to test the entire population of state inmates at the Otero County Prison Facility. Results will be reported.

As of today, May 18th 2020 there are a total of 21 COVID-19 positive inmates, all at the Otero County Prison Facility.

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