



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Governor Tony Evers / Secretary Kevin A. Carr

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DOC Continues to Increase Movement at Waupun, Green Bay Facilities

Madison, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC) continues to assess modified movement at Waupun Correctional Institution (WCI) and Green Bay Correctional Institution (GBCI) and incrementally increase participation in activities. Beginning today, the DOC is taking another step forward by lifting the administrative rule suspension at WCI related to personal hygiene.

The DOC has seen an influx of security staff through its Facility Staff Training and Support graduations. Academy graduations in November and December brought nearly 300 new corrections officers to Wisconsin's adult institutions. This helped lower the DOC's vacancy rate among correctional officers and sergeants from 35% in August to 26% as of January 13.

Lifting of the administrative rule suspension related to personal hygiene was made possible, in part, by temporarily relocating additional security staff from other facilities to WCI through the supplemental staffing plan (SSP). WCI already had 22 officers through the SSP, and beginning on January 3 that number was increased to 33. Without the recent reduction in our overall vacancy rate, sending additional staff to WCI would not have been possible. The additional staff is helping WCI sustain a more predictable daily operations schedule while maintaining safety for staff and persons in our care (PIOCs).

The DOC anticipates another record-setting graduation in February. The increased interest in security staff jobs is largely driven by the new compensation plan included in Governor Evers' biennial budget and included in the final budget approved by the State Legislature. The plan set starting pay at \$33 per hour for correctional officers, which can be as high as \$41 per hour with add-ons.

"While we understand the work is not yet finished, we're encouraged by both the growing interest in corrections officer jobs and the tremendous work from our staff to help get us to this point," said DOC Secretary Kevin Carr. "We will continue to evaluate operations at both facilities and increase activities when it can be done safely for staff and all persons in our care."

While WCI and GBCI remain in modified movement, both facilities have increased activities in a number of areas. At WCI, the remaining suspended rules relate to in-person visitation and leisure time activities. The facility has been able to offer two periods of recreation weekly for each PIOC, and now permits video visitation on weekends and at least two showers each week. At GBCI, the only rule suspension that remains is related to leisure time. The facility resumed in-person visitation in November and offers one period of recreation each week.

In November, Governor Evers and the DOC announced a number of measures that included transitioning WCI to single-cell housing by March 1. This effort required the transfer of approximately 230 PIOC's, and as of January 26 the DOC only needs to transfer 54 PIOC's to meet its goal. The reduction in population at WCI will help take pressure off of the facility's security staff.

For more information on the recent measures announced by Governor Evers and the DOC, see the [November press release](#). Update on staffing and vacancies can be found on the [DOC's interactive dashboard](#).