



Wisconsin Department of Corrections

Governor Tony Evers | Secretary Kevin A. Carr

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 17, 2020

DOC Communications, 608-240-5060

DOCMedia@wisconsin.gov

CAPTURE OF COLUMBIA CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION INMATES

The two inmates who escaped from Columbia Correctional Institution (CCI) on Thursday, April 16, 2020 are now in custody. Thomas E. Deering, and James R. Newman were captured in Rockford, Illinois and taken into custody by the Rockford Police Department on the morning of April 17, 2020. Newman and Deering escaped CCI on the morning of April 16, 2020 by scaling the perimeter fences.

Deering has been incarcerated since 2001, and Newman has been incarcerated since 2011. Both have escape histories, and were subsequently housed in the maximum security facility. Although CCI has been on limited and restricted movement since March 21, 2020 due to COVID-19 concerns, limited movement for essential functions of the institution were still allowed at the time the escape occurred.

Kevin A. Carr, Department of Corrections Secretary stated, "I am extremely pleased that the authorities have arrested these two individuals who represented a threat to public safety. I am grateful for the professionalism and hard work of the Rockford Police Department, the Columbia County Sheriff's Office, the U.S Marshals Office, the FBI and all other law enforcement agencies involved in the safe apprehension of these fugitives."

Additional information on Deering and Newman can be found on DOC Locator:

<https://appsdoc.wi.gov/lop/>