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For Immediate Release:

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COVID-19 Testing Complete at Northwest State Correctional Facility

All facilities across Vermont have been placed into a full lockdown; COVID+ inmates from Northwest State Correctional Facility will be relocated to St. Johnsbury

Waterbury, Vt., April 9, 2020 – The Vermont Department of Corrections has completed testing of all inmates and staff at the Northwest State Correctional Facility (NWSCF) following the announcement yesterday of an inmate who had tested positive.

The tests of all inmates and available staff were complete as of April 9 at 12:30 p.m. for a total of 328 tests completed. As of 1:00 p.m., 167 of the results have come back. In this initial round of results, 28 additional inmates tested positive, as well as five additional staff members. Full tests results will be completed and announced tomorrow.

The 28 inmates will be moved to the St. Johnsbury facility to isolate while they recover. Currently these inmates are asymptomatic. The staff will be quarantined and not report to work.

NWSCF remains on a full facility lock down as was announced earlier this week. On Monday, April 6 all staff and inmates at the facility were issued masks to wear at all times.

All facilities have now been placed in a full lockdown. A full lockdown is a controlled measure to mitigate any further spread of the virus throughout the facility. Inmates will remain in their cells, essential services, meals, and medication will be brought to them and movement will be restricted except for emergency and hygiene purposes. Additionally, protective masks have been delivered to all facilities to be used by staff and inmates.

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