

# COVID-19 Update

May 1, 2020

7 p.m.

SCDC is requesting assistance from the S.C. National Guard to help monitor offenders for COVID-19 symptoms at three institutions. The agency is asking for 20-30 National Guard soldiers to help temporarily augment the SCDC medical teams at Kirkland, Allendale and Lee correctional institutions.

Kirkland and Allendale are both on institution-wide quarantines after offenders there tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. That means about 1,600 offenders must be monitored at least twice daily. That monitoring includes taking temperatures, pulse and checking other symptoms.

Offenders who have tested positive for COVID-19 are being treated in isolation units at Lee and Kirkland. Their cellmates and any other offenders who present as symptomatic also are being monitored.

The National Guard is stepping in to supplement corrections medical staffs across the country, including in Kansas, Ohio, Wisconsin and Illinois.

“We’re grateful to Gen. Van McCarty and the National Guard for this collaboration in helping us keep staff and offenders safe during this unprecedented time,” said Bryan Stirling, Director of the S.C. Department of Corrections.