Dear Rachel,

I hope you had a great holiday weekend. As we discussed last week and before the Law and Justice Interim Committee, the DOC has been provided testing resources for sentinel testing for COVID-19. Sentinel testing is the testing of individuals who are not symptomatic. We will be conducting sentinel testing at all of our DOC facilities in the coming days and weeks. The testing results from the first facility to undergo sentinel testing, the Riverside Special Needs Unit for medically-infirm adult male prison inmates in Boulder, is complete. All 21 inmates were tested and 3 staff members were tested. All tests came back negative. We have updated our COVID-19 webpage with this information and will continue to update it daily as additional testing information is available.

https://cor.mt.gov/COVID-19

We are pleased with these results and of course will continue with the ongoing preventative measures we have implemented to reduce the risk of introduction and spread of COVID-19 in our prison system. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Cynthia

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