

Exhibit M



CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES

MEMORANDUM

Date: April 10, 2020

To: Secretary Ralph Diaz

From: J. Clark Kelso, Receiver *J. Clark Kelso*

Subject: CCHCS Guidelines for Achieving and Maintaining Social Distancing in California Prisons

In the face of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, California Correctional Health Care Services (CCHCS) will continue to be guided by the developing scientific and medical consensus regarding social distancing in correctional settings, as well as by the Receiver's authority under the Order Appointing Receiver and the applicable regulatory provisions of Title 15 of the California Code of Regulations. Accordingly, the Receiver has determined that CCHCS and California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) should implement the following steps in their ongoing efforts to mitigate the risks associated with transmission of the COVID-19 coronavirus.

1. CDCR should not authorize or undertake any further movements of inmates between institutions to achieve necessary social distancing without the approval of Health Care Placement Oversight Program (HCPOP) in consultation with the CCHCS public health team. Inter-institution moves risk carrying the virus from one institution to another.
2. The Center for Disease Control's "Interim Guidance on Management of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Correctional and Detention Facilities," dated March 23, 2020 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/correction-detention/guidance-correctional-detention.html>), recommends maintaining social distance of 6 feet between inmates while acknowledging that "Strategies will need to be tailored to the individual space in the facility and the needs of the population and staff. Not all strategies will be feasible in all facilities." Necessary social distancing is already being achieved in both single- and double-celled units. In double cells, cell mates constitute one another's "social distancing cohort" for correctional purposes and are analogous to a family unit in the free world. With respect to housing in dorm settings, the Receiver has determined that necessary social distancing can be achieved by creating 8-person housing cohorts. Each cohort is to be separated from the others by a distance of at least six feet in all directions.
3. Any movement of inmates out of the dorms to achieve necessary cohort social distancing must be coordinated with, and may not occur without the concurrence of,

MEMORANDUM

Page 2 of 2

HCPOP to ensure to the extent feasible that such movement does not cause, contribute to or exacerbate the potential spread of the disease.

4. CCHCS will continue to monitor developments closely and will modify these guidelines as necessary and appropriate.