



Whatcom County
HEALTH
Department



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 27, 2021

Media Contacts

Deb Slater, Whatcom County Sheriff's Office PIO - (360) 927-4838

Melissa Morin, Whatcom County Health Department PIO - (360) 594-2504

WUC_JIC@co.whatcom.wa.us

Additional Cases of COVID-19 at Whatcom County Jail Work Center

Bellingham, WA-- As of Wednesday morning, January 27, 2021 there have been a total of 34 confirmed cases of COVID-19 at the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office minimum-security Work Center facility located in Bellingham.

In response to the outbreak at the facility, the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office and Whatcom County Health Department (WCHD) have been responding by coordinating daily to assess needs for mitigation measures such as on-site quarantine and isolation arrangements, PPE needs, and environmental controls. Additionally, WCHD is providing twice-weekly on-site testing for all offenders in quarantine and all staff.

Offenders who have tested positive for COVID-19 are showing mild symptoms, are isolated with the other positive COVID-19 offenders, and are receiving medical care. One offender has been released through a coordinated effort between the Whatcom County Sheriff's Office and the Whatcom County Health Department to ensure the released individual has a safe place to quarantine.

###