



DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
P. O. BOX 1806
CONCORD, NH 03302-1806

INTRA-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM
Office of the Commissioner

FROM: Helen E. Hanks
Commissioner

DATE: April 28, 2020

SUBJECT: **Fabric Face Coverings**

OFFICE: Commissioner's Office
Phone: 271-5603

TO: All Staff and Facility Residents

.....

In light of the current state of emergency, I am authorizing residents to wear, as a voluntary health measure, fabric face coverings. They can be worn within these parameters:

No fabric face coverings are to be worn by residents single celled in the Special Housing Unit
No fabric face coverings are to be worn while laying down or sleeping.

No fabric face coverings are to be worn during observation levels.

Fabric face coverings must be removed during all standing counts.

A resident, when directed to remove a fabric face covering will do so without unnecessary delay. Failure to remove a mask for count, or following a direct order to remove the face covering will result in disciplinary action, up to and including a 32A.

Fabric face coverings will have a resident's ID number and name placed on them.

Fabric face coverings will be laundered through the department's laundry system.

If a resident is a suspected or positive COVID-19 case, personnel protective equipment will be issued and required to be worn per protocol/guidelines.

To the extent there is credible information or intelligence related to an individual that would relate to the wearing of the face covering, security leadership or Investigations may request an exclusion for the resident through the facility Warden.

Fabric face coverings will be a voluntary health measure at this time for residents.

Facility staff will be working to distribute 2 fabric coverings per resident throughout this week. Residents are not to alter their fabric coverings other than by placing a name and ID # on them. If your fabric covering needs to be replaced, please bring it to staff for review and they will work to provide a replacement.