

The Virgin Islands Consortium

B.O.C. Lifts Lockdown on Farrelly Justice Center in St. Thomas, Says Facility Has Been Cleared of Covid

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ST. THOMAS — The V.I. Bureau of Corrections said Friday that the Alexander Farrelly Criminal Justice Complex in St. Thomas has been cleared of all active Covid-19 cases, even as B.O.C. medical staff remains vigilant and stands ready to take quick action and tackle any future situation in light of the pandemic.

"As it stands, B.O.C. medical staff have conducted consistent mass testing for our 76 inmates/detainees and have tested all 35 correctional staff members and 17 civilian staff at the Criminal Justice Center as of August 20, 2021," stated the Bureau.

It said staff members who are vaccinated have submitted their proof of vaccination, and those who are still unvaccinated will be required to show weekly proof of a Covid-19 negative test. Of the previously reported positive cases among inmates, all have now recovered and have since tested negative. No inmate required hospitalization.

B.O.C. said the lockdown at the Farrelly Justice Center has now been lifted but with strict adherence to the Covid-19 protocols. In-person visits, work details, and prisoner furloughs remain suspended, as they have been since the start of the pandemic. Court hearings held virtually remain unaffected. Attorneys may visit with prisoners via secure video conference by contacting the facility to schedule a video visit.

"The margins between life on the inside along with staff and vendors constantly maneuvering in and out the facility and transfers of incarcerated individuals makes it even more critical to follow concrete steps to minimize the Covid-19 risk at our facilities in accordance with CDC guidelines, new and emerging practices coupled with weekly strategy hurdles," stated B.O.C. Director Wynnie Testamark.