

**American Federation of Government Employees**  
Council of Prison Locals C-33  
Local 1013



**Cyndee L. Price, President**

P. O. Box 413  
Yazoo City, Mississippi 39219  
(662) 751-4800 ext. 4540  
662-528-3311 Cell  
(662) 751-4989 Fax



September 22, 2020

TO: HONORABLE TATE REEVES, GOVERNOR

FCC Yazoo City will be opening up visitation to the inmate's family and visitors on October 3, 2020. Management stated to Local Union No.1013, on August 31, 2020 they would be implementing procedures to follow CDC Guidelines in order to allow each inmate visitation privileges. The procedures they planned on implementing would be as follows:

- No more than approximately 11 inmates inside of the visitation room
- Visitation would be conducted seven (7) days a week, throughout the entire day
- More staff will need to be made available to cover the security for the inmates to receive visitation
- Unit Management Department will need to create a working log for inmates to sign up for visitation
- Each inmate will be ensured at least two (2) visits a month
- No more than two (2) visitors will be allowed for each inmate
- Temperature checks will be conducted for visitors in the front upon entering each institution
- Each visitor will remain in their vehicles until a staff calls for them from the parking lot.

As we know we are entering into Influenza Season, coupled with an already COVID Pandemic, which has yet to be under control. There is no way our institution is equipped with handling an Influenza outbreak and a COVID-19 outbreak at the same time. There is no way to decrease the spread of unknown outside pathogens and adhere to the CDC guideline in place with the population between staff and inmates Complex-wide. FCC Yazoo City has no contingency plan for COVID-19. Our Safety Department just failed the Corona Virus Response Team's unannounced visit from Washington D.C. This team comprised of Regional Medical Professionals who came to review the procedures at FCC Yazoo City implemented to ensure we were following proper protocol in decreasing the spread of the

Coronavirus. Our Safety Department is not equipped to contain and minimize the spread within the facility. It is surely not equipped to decrease the potential spread from hundreds of individuals who are coming from across the country into our facilities. Our Collective Bargaining Agreement's (CBA), which is still in effect, language is clear in its respects of **Article 27 Section a. wherein it states, "There are essentially two (2) distinct areas of concern regarding the safety and health of employees in the Federal Bureau of Prisons: 1. the first, which affects the safety and well-being of employees, involves the inherent hazards of a correctional environment; and 2. the second, which affects the safety and health of employees, involves the inherent hazards associated with the normal industrial operations found throughout the Federal Bureau of Prisons."**

With all due respect Governor Reeves, our State cannot take any more damaging effects from COVID-19. Allowing outside entities to enter into our State to possibly spread the Coronavirus would do more detriment to our communities and its citizens than good. The staff are already an increasing risk to the inmate population daily. Humbly sir, we cannot afford this kind of potential harm. The Union knows you are more than capable to putting an end to this and we would greatly appreciate if you could use your influence to see that physical visitation is put to a halt and another plan for inmates to receive visitation is planned or thought out.

In our technological climate we have in society today, video visitation would be a lot safer for staff and inmates. If that is not economically feasible, FCC Yazoo City may have to wait until it is safer for us as a Country to start visitation inside of the penial systems again. We want all of our inmates to one day go back into society to see their families. We do not want to have to call any family member and tell them due to COVID-19 you will never see your loved one again.

Lastly, this increases the inherent workload and changes the working conditions of the staff here at FCC Yazoo City. We are currently short one-hundred thirty-four (134) staff across our Complex. We do not have the staffing compliment to fulfill the needs of this institution, without causing undo stressors onto the staff. Our staff are tired, working sixteen (16) hours or more daily, seven days a week. Some have not seen their families days in a row due to the increase in work. There does not seem to be an end in sight. Any help will be much obliged.

Humbly and Respectfully,



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September 22, 2020

TO: HONORABLE CINDY HYDE-SMITH, SENATOR

FCC Yazoo City will be opening up visitation to the inmate's family and visitors on October 3, 2020. Management stated to Local Union No.1013, on August 31, 2020 they would be implementing procedures to follow CDC Guidelines in order to allow each inmate visitation privileges. The procedures they planned on implementing would be as follows:

- No more than approximately 11 inmates inside of the visitation room
- Visitation would be conducted seven (7) days a week, throughout the entire day
- More staff will need to be made available to cover the security for the inmates to receive visitation
- Unit Management Department will need to create a working log for inmates to sign up for visitation
- Each inmate will be ensured at least two (2) visits a month
- No more than two (2) visitors will be allowed for each inmate
- Temperature checks will be conducted for visitors in the front upon entering each institution
- Each visitor will remain in their vehicles until a staff calls for them from the parking lot.

As we know we are entering into Influenza Season, coupled with an already COVID Pandemic, which has yet to be under control. There is no way our institution is equipped with handling an Influenza outbreak and a COVID-19 outbreak at the same time. There is no way to decrease the spread of unknown outside pathogens and adhere to the CDC guideline in place with the population between staff and inmates Complex-wide. FCC Yazoo City has no contingency plan for COVID-19. Our Safety Department just failed the Corona Virus Response Team's unannounced visit from Washington D.C. This team comprised of Regional Medical Professionals who came to review the procedures at FCC Yazoo City implemented to ensure we were following proper protocol in decreasing the spread of the

Coronavirus. Our Safety Department is not equipped to contain and minimize the spread within the facility. It is surely not equipped to decrease the potential spread from hundreds of individuals who are coming from across the country into our facilities. Our Collective Bargaining Agreement's (CBA), which is still in effect, language is clear in its respects of **Article 27 Section a. wherein it states, "There are essentially two (2) distinct areas of concern regarding the safety and health of employees in the Federal Bureau of Prisons: 1. the first, which affects the safety and well-being of employees, involves the inherent hazards of a correctional environment; and 2. the second, which affects the safety and health of employees, involves the inherent hazards associated with the normal industrial operations found throughout the Federal Bureau of Prisons."**

With all due respect Senator Hyde-Smith, our State cannot take any more damaging effects from COVID-19. Allowing outside entities to enter into our State to possibly spread the Coronavirus would do more detriment to our communities and its citizens than good. The staff are already an increasing risk to the inmate population daily. Humbly ma'am, we cannot afford this kind of potential harm. The Union knows you are more than capable to putting an end to this and we would greatly appreciate if you could use your influence to see that physical visitation is put to a halt and another plan for inmates to receive visitation is planned or thought out.

In our technological climate we have in society today, video visitation would be a lot safer for staff and inmates. If that is not economically feasible, FCC Yazoo City may have to wait until it is safer for us as a Country to start visitation inside of the penial systems again. We want all of our inmates to one day go back into society to see their families. We do not want to have to call any family member and tell them due to COVID-19 you will never see your loved one again.

Lastly, this increases the inherent workload and changes the working conditions of the staff here at FCC Yazoo City. We are currently short one-hundred thirty-four (134) staff across our Complex. We do not have the staffing compliment to fulfill the needs of this institution, without causing undo stressors onto the staff. Our staff are tired, working sixteen (16) hours or more daily, seven days a week. Some have not seen their families days in a row due to the increase in work. There does not seem to be an end in sight. Any help will be much obliged.

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September 22, 2020

TO: HONORABLE ROGER WICKER, SENATOR

FCC Yazoo City will be opening up visitation to the inmate's family and visitors on October 3, 2020. Management stated to Local Union No.1013, on August 31, 2020 they would be implementing procedures to follow CDC Guidelines in order to allow each inmate visitation privileges. The procedures they planned on implementing would be as follows:

- No more than approximately 11 inmates inside of the visitation room
- Visitation would be conducted seven (7) days a week, throughout the entire day
- Increased staff availability will be needed for security coverage during the visitation process
- Unit Management Department will need to create a working log for inmates to sign up for visitation
- Each inmate will be ensured at least two (2) visits a month
- No more than two (2) visitors will be allowed for each inmate
- Temperature checks will be conducted for visitors in the front upon entering each institution
- Each visitor will remain in their vehicles until a staff calls for them from the parking lot.

As we know we are entering into Influenza Season, coupled with an already COVID Pandemic, which has yet to be under control. There is no way our institution is equipped with handling an Influenza outbreak and a COVID-19 outbreak at the same time. There is no way to decrease the spread of unknown outside pathogens and adhere to the CDC guideline in place with the population between staff and inmates Complex-wide. FCC Yazoo City has no contingency plan for COVID-19. Our Safety Department just failed the Corona Virus Response Team's unannounced visit from Washington D.C. This team comprised of Regional Medical Professionals who came to review the procedures at FCC Yazoo City implemented to ensure we were following proper protocol in decreasing the spread of the

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With all due respect Senator Wicker, our State cannot take any more damaging effects from COVID-19. Allowing outside entities to enter into our State to possibly spread the Coronavirus would do more detriment to our communities and its citizens than good. The staff are already and increasing risk to the inmate population daily. Humbly sir, we cannot afford this kind of potential harm. The Union knows you are more than capable to putting an end to this and we would greatly appreciate if you could use your influence to see that physical visitation is put to a halt and another plan for inmates to receive visitation is planned or thought out.

In our technological climate we have in society today, video visitation would be a lot safer for staff and inmates. If that is not economically feasible, FCC Yazoo City may have to wait until it is safer for us as a Country to start visitation inside of the penal systems again. We want all of our inmates to one day go back into society to see their families. We do not want to have to call any family member and tell them due to COVID-19 you will never see your loved one again.

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TO: HONORABLE BENNIE THOMPSON, CONGRESSMAN

FCC Yazoo City will be opening up visitation to the inmate's family and visitors on October 3, 2020. Management stated to Local Union No.1013, on August 31, 2020 they would be implementing procedures to follow CDC Guidelines in order to allow each inmate visitation privileges. The procedures they planned on implementing would be as follows:

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With all due respect Congressman Thompson, our State cannot take any more damaging effects from COVID-19. Allowing outside entities to enter into our State to possibly spread the Coronavirus would do more detriment to our communities and its citizens than good. The staff are already an increasing risk to the inmate population daily. Humbly sir, we cannot afford this kind of potential harm. The Union knows you are more than capable to putting an end to this and we would greatly appreciate if you could use your influence to see that physical visitation is put to a halt and another plan for inmates to receive visitation is planned or thought out.

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