



TO: DOC Leadership

FROM: 
Tabb Bickell
Executive Deputy Secretary
Institutional Operations


Christopher Oppman
Deputy Secretary
Administration

DATE: August 13, 2018

RE: Personal Protective Equipment | Staff and Safety Initiatives

We have experienced several incidents over the past week in which staff and inmates have incurred adverse affects from illicit substances. Staff should take all precautions and utilize the appropriate personal protective equipment. The Bureau of Operations has identified the *Ambitex N720BLK black 6 mil nitrile glove* as exceeding the occupational safety standards. The information to order these gloves is attached, please order a sufficient quantity to outfit staff conducting searches, handling mail or inmate property. In addition we are in the process of pursuing several other initiatives which will enhance the safety of our facilities, to include the following:

- Development of staff training to ensure the appropriate donning and removal of PPE, and universal precautions during daily operations
- Training and equipment procurement for select Special Teams members (CERT and FERT) for the safe handling and decontamination of illicit substances
- Procurement of safety disposal equipment in the facility mailrooms and security offices
- Evaluation and procurement for Body Scanner devices for each Facility
- Implementation of inmate mail processing through a third party vendor, to receive, scan, and forward the copies to the respective Facility for distribution.
- Implementing a procedure to copy legal mail
- Policy changes regarding inmate purchases of books
- Procurement of K-9 Narcan auto injectors
- Development of inmate "PSA" bulletins regarding the effects of illicit substances, to be played on the inmate channel

Attch: N720BLK Gloves