



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 11, 2018

**Department of Corrections Begins Transferring Employees, Inmates
from SCI Graterford to SCI Phoenix**

Collegeville, PA – At 9:15 AM, Department of Corrections officials locked down SCI Graterford to begin the relocation of employees and inmates from the State Correctional Institution (SCI) Graterford to SCI Phoenix. DOC officials plan to move several hundred inmates each day, and they will continue the transition for however long it takes to complete the operation.

“Employees and inmates have been waiting patiently for this move to take place,” said Corrections Secretary John Wetzel. “We are aware of the anxiety that this move has caused everyone, and we have worked diligently to plan for every aspect and to ensure that the transition is smooth for everyone involved.”

The DOC uses an incident command system to manage situations, and command centers have been opened at the DOC’s central office, Graterford and Phoenix.

The entire prison grounds are off limits to everyone, and a secure perimeter has been established thanks to assistance from other state prison staff and the Pennsylvania State Police.

The DOC will hold daily press briefings to inform everyone about the progress of the transition.

In addition, individuals are asked to follow the transition on the DOC’s website at www.cor.pa.gov and on Facebook (Pennsylvania Department of Corrections) and Twitter @CorrectionsPA.

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