

# COVID-19 Update

Sept. 18, 2020

11 a.m.

SCDC announced the death today of an offender from Broad River Correctional Institution, who was positive for COVID-19.

James Robert Byrd, 64, who had chronic underlying medical conditions, died at an outside hospital Thursday, Sept. 17. He tested positive for the coronavirus on Aug. 31 and was hospitalized that day.

As of today, 362 offenders and 59 staff members at Broad River have tested positive for COVID-19. Of those, 332 offenders and 28 staff are active cases; 23 offenders and 30 staff members have recovered. SCDC, with 16,234 offenders, has had 2,016 offenders test positive for the coronavirus systemwide. Of those, 1,295 have recovered and 697 are active cases. There are 72 active staff cases. This is the department's 26th inmate death associated with the virus.

SCDC is working closely with the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control to ensure proper guidelines and protocols are being followed to safely manage our staff and offenders.

Further updates about the agency's response to the COVID-19 pandemic can be found on our website, [www.doc.sc.gov](http://www.doc.sc.gov).