



The Illinois Department of Corrections

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Memorandum

To: Individuals in Custody
From: Director Rob Jeffreys
Date: October 13, 2021
Subject: Commissary Shortages

I have sent a video to each facility to be played on the institutional television channel. I have provided the content of that video below in the event you were unable to view the video.

As you have noticed there has been a reduction in the commissary offerings. Items such as but not limited to batteries, detergent, and aftershave with the specifications and in the quantities required by the Department, have been increasingly difficult to procure. This is due to factors beyond the control of the Department or its staff.

The global pandemic caused by COVID-19 has impacted the global supply chain in ways not experienced by the world in many years. Essential raw materials are not making it to distribution centers and there is a shortage of workers in manufacturing centers and logistic companies.

I wanted you to hear these facts from me because the impact of this disruption is affecting you, our staff, and this Department's operations.

We are not going to allow these obstacles to stop us from finding solutions to stock the commissary shelves. Additionally, it is still the Department's intention to provide certain items at no cost to you in the future. Moving forward, we will provide updates and communicate directly with you.

Please understand that the Department is doing everything within its power to resolve this issue. In the meantime, we are working on purchasing small boxes of various items that will be provided to each of you at no cost.

I appreciate your understanding of this situation.

Thank you,

Rob Jeffreys, Your Director
Illinois Department of Corrections