



## **Nome Youth Facility Closure Information (7-12-19)**

The Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Juvenile Justice Nome Youth Facility will cease secure detention and secure treatment services on July 14, 2019. Funding to keep the detention and secure treatment services operating was not included in the FY2020 budget.

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

#### **What will happen to the juveniles currently residing in the facility?**

The youth currently residing in the facility are being relocated to other DJJ secure detention or treatment facilities.

#### **What DJJ presence, if any, will remain in Nome?**

The DJJ Nome Juvenile Probation office will remain in its current location at the Nome Youth Facility.

#### **What will happen to the facility structure?**

The facility will continue to house the Nome Juvenile Probation offices and serve as a temporary detention facility for youth pending transport to another DJJ detention facility.

#### **What will happen with arrested juveniles?**

Most arrested juveniles are released to parents or guardians. Nome/Kotzebue area juveniles who require temporary detention will be held by DJJ in the Nome Youth Facility pending transport to another DJJ detention facility in Anchorage, Bethel, Fairbanks, Mat-Su, Kenai, or Juneau. On occasion, DJJ will transport these youth to Kotzebue or Nome for court hearings.

#### **How will youth maintain contact with their families when they are held in another facility?**

DJJ understands the importance of maintaining contact and relationships between youth and their families. Like other Alaska youth who are located in facilities outside of their home communities, the Division utilizes telephone, videoconference, and individualized visitation plans to support these relationships. DJJ is also exploring the potential of using other methods, such as Skype, to maintain family contact.

#### **How will staff be impacted when the detention and secure treatment services end?**

A total of 18 full-time staff positions are subject to lay-off. Two full time Juvenile Justice Officers (JJOs) and one full time non-permanent JJO position will remain to assist with the juvenile detention services and secure escorts to another DJJ detention facility.

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