

# COVID-19 Update

Jan. 19, 2021

4 p.m.

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

Marcellus Pierce, 73, who was terminally ill and in palliative care, died in the Lee Correctional infirmary today. He tested positive for the coronavirus on Jan. 7.

As of today, 81 offenders and 41 staff members at Lee have tested positive for COVID-19. Of those, 23 offender cases and six staff cases are active. SCDC, with 15,694 offenders, has had 2,919 offenders test positive for the coronavirus systemwide. Of those, 2,398 have recovered and 484 are active cases. There are 162 active staff cases. This is the department's 37th 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).