

COVID-19 Update

Jan. 5, 2021

6 p.m.

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

Charles Ellis Sr., 65, who had underlying medical conditions, died at a local hospital today. He tested positive for the coronavirus Dec. 27 and was hospitalized that day.

As of today, 53 offenders and 14 staff members at Ridgeland have tested positive for COVID-19. Of those, 43 offender cases and 8 staff cases are active. SCDC, with 15,665 offenders, has had 2,728 offenders test positive for the coronavirus systemwide. Of those, 2,349 have recovered and 344 are active cases. There are 151 active staff cases. This is the department's 35th 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.