DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Internal Memo

Interim Guidance Memo Number: 301.075.1

Date: April 30, 2026

To: All Staff

cc: Deputy Commissioners Crystal Brakke and Safia Khan; Assistant Commissioners Paula Graff and Kelly Mitchell; Director of Health, Recovery, and Programs Jolene Rebertus; Inspector General Mikael Garland

From: Paul Schnell, Commissioner

Interim Guidance: Policy 301.075.01

Effective immediately, DOC is changing provisions in the policy listed below, which will be incorporated into the policy document in a future policy revision.

What Policies Are Being Affected and/or Replaced:

- Policy 301.075 – Crisis Intervention Team (CIT). Procedure(s) impacted are A.3.a-e, C.2, and F.2.a-c

Background:

- Policy 301.075 requires that CIT-trained staff complete a minimum of eight (8) hours of refresher training every two years to maintain certification. This requirement supports ongoing skill development and fidelity to CIT principles.
- The CIT Steering Committee is currently conducting a comprehensive review of CIT policy, training practices, and agency capacity to ensure alignment with operational needs and best practices.
- In consultation with the National Institute of Corrections, refresher courses are recommended, but there is no set prescription for the frequency or number of hours for this refresher training. This component of our training practices is a part of the review to be conducted.

Explanation of the Change:

Based on the decision of the CIT Steering Committee, effective immediately:

- The **CIT refresher training requirement is paused through December 31, 2026.**
- Staff who are currently CIT-certified **will not lose certification status due to non-completion of any refresher training during this period.**
- Facilities **are not required to schedule or track refresher training compliance** during the pause.
- Facilities are not required to maintain CIT committees during this pause.
- During this period,
    - CIT-trained staff are expected to continue applying CIT principles and de-escalation techniques in accordance with Policy 301.075.
    - Facilities should maintain current rosters of CIT-trained staff and continue standard CIT activation and reporting practices.
    - Any available training opportunities may continue at the discretion of facility leadership but are not required for compliance.

Resources/What to Expect:

During this time, the CIT Steering Committee will:

- Review policy requirements, training delivery models, and staffing capacity;
- Evaluate opportunities for modernization and standardization of CIT training and coaching;
- Provide updated policy and training guidance prior to December 31, 2026.
- Additional direction will be issued following completion of this review.

Should you have any questions related to Policy 301.075, please contact Kristi Politoski or Shanna Langston. For more information about CIT or the CIT Steering Committee composition, please click here. Thank you for your work to ensure consistency in practice while revisions to this policy are being made.