



State of Utah

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# Utah Department of Corrections

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Hunger Strike Update: Most inmates taking meals**

This morning, 31 inmates participating in a hunger strike disturbance at the Utah State Prison accepted breakfast trays.

Eleven of the 42 inmates who began the hunger strike on July 31 in the Uinta 2 unit refused trays.

The Utah Department of Corrections will continue to offer all the inmates meal trays as regularly scheduled. Medical staff also will continue to provide health checks to the inmates.

On Tuesday, the Department began holding individual interviews with inmates participating in the disturbance to inform them that their privilege level would be reduced because of their behavior. Such a reduction in privileges is a standard consequence for acts that jeopardize safety and security and disrupt the operation of the facility.

A total of 11 inmates were moved to a different maximum-security unit Tuesday after they refused to submit to handcuffs so they could be safely brought to an interview room. Some covered their cell doors with paper, refused to comply with orders and broke sprinklers in their cells, causing flooding. Two inmates also began fighting within their cell.

Of the inmates who were moved to another section, all but one accepted a meal tray this morning.

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