



CITY OF RICHMOND
OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
1701 FAIRFIELD WAY
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23223
ANTIONETTE V. IRVING - SHERIFF



Primary Contact
Email: Stacey.Bagby@richmondgov.com
Phone: (804) 646-0089

THE COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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As a result of our aggressive testing measures, unfortunately we have learned that the number of positive cases at the Richmond City Sheriff's Office (RCSO) has increased. We are continuously testing and separately housing individuals who have symptoms or do not feel well; however, many of those testing positive are asymptomatic. The Virginia Department of Health continues to assist the Richmond City Sheriff's Office in conducting COVID-19 testing regularly.

There are currently 103 inmates and 6 staff members who are quarantined as a result of COVID-19; testing positive, displaying symptoms, or may have come in contact with either the inmates, staff members or others outside of our facilities such as home, work, or community. There are no COVID-19 related hospitalizations. Current population is 675 inmates and 325 staff members.

We want to reassure the community and staff that the RCSO continues to take every step possible to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of all inmates and staff. Our commitment to protecting inmates, contractors, vendors, and staff members is paramount. Again, all individuals who have tested positive or may have been exposed to someone who is positive are currently quarantined.

Although the Richmond City Sheriff's Office continues to be committed to ensuring the safety of the inmates housed at the Richmond City Justice Center, the staff, and everyone who enters into the facilities, there are no guarantees in totally eliminating the possibility of the virus from having an impact on the Sheriff's Office. We will continue to take the necessary measures to reduce the spread of infection.

We have instituted all of the guidelines recommended by the CDC to include wearing masks, social distancing within the facility and courts, hand washing/hand sanitizing, daily temperature checks, and increased janitorial cleaning throughout the day at the facility. When new inmates come into the facility, they are not placed in general population. Instead, they are quarantined in an area strictly for new arrivals where they are housed for a minimum of 14-20 days.

During our weekly walk-throughs of the facility our goal is to be proactive and keep our finger on the pulse of the wellness of all individuals. At the first sign of any symptoms (staff or inmate) we quarantine and quickly test individuals to determine a diagnosis. We have asked our staff not to visit any hotspots, and to wear masks. To also take sanitizing, cleaning, and disinfecting precautions at all times. We ask our staff members to self-quarantine, test after vacations or any interactions which may have placed them in contact with someone exposed to coronavirus. We remind our staff members of the importance of social distancing, good cough hygiene, and cloth face covers to prevent transmission since COVID-19 is in the community. There will always be a risk of introduction, and it is good to always maintain safe practices.



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We continue to monitor the health and welfare of the inmates, staff, contractors, and vendors that enter into our facilities and others who we make contact with daily. We are also committed to keeping the community at large informed.

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