

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT COUNTY OF NASSAU

Sheriff's Memo

To: INMATE POPULATION, YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES

From: SHERIFF DZURENDA

Date: APRIL 29, 2020

Subject: COVID-19 UPDATE

As we are approaching May 1, 2020, the data we are receiving from the County and State is definitely showing signs of improvement, but COVID-19 infections are not yet gone. The Facility and the County have done a great job in preventing and protecting each of us from the spread of this deadly virus.

The Nassau County Correctional Center is now drafting a return to normal operations plan. The plan will be developed and well thought out for staff and inmate protection. The plan will also be coordinated through a Three County Team process. The Nassau County Sheriff's Office which consists of myself and members of the Corrections Division are constantly meeting and discussing current operating plans and return to normal operations with staff from Suffolk County and Westchester County.

This notice is just to inform you that we are getting closer to returning to regular facility operations. However, I will only approve the return after being comfortable that we are fully protecting both staff and inmates.

As of now, the following will continue to occur until further notice:

- All newly admitted inmates shall be tested for COVID-19 upon intake.
- All newly admitted inmates shall be placed in a separate housing area and not allowed to be moved into general population until a minimum of first being housed and monitored for at least 14 days in Intake Housing.
- All Inmates shall be allowed to use the telephone and allowed two free 5 minute calls per week.
- All inmates shall not be transferred from their current housing unless absolutely necessary and approved by a Tour Commander.
- No more than 10 inmates shall be let out to congregate inside or outside for recreational activities. These same 10 inmates shall be grouped together and stay in the same group when inside and outside for recreation. This will isolate the inmate and virus if one member of that group does contract COVID-19.
- A separate Housing Unit/Infirmary has been identified for any inmate who shows any sign or symptom of COVID-19.
- A separate Housing Unit/Infirmary has been identified for any inmate who has tested positive for COVID-19 for closer medical observation and medical isolation.
- Once identified by medical to have COVID-19 signs/symptoms or received a positive test result, these inmates are not to be housed in the same cell with another inmate.
- A separate Housing Unit has been identified as a "step down" Unit to continue to monitor any inmate who previously tested positive for COVID-19 and has been cleared

to return to general population. They will be placed in this “step down” Unit for another 14 days to be medically observed prior to transfer back to the general population housing.

- All inmates shall be issued a N95 mask to be worn when within 6 feet of another inmate or staff member. All inmates in B-Building shall also be issued a surgical mask, as well. This building is mainly where the positive COVID-19 tests have been identified.
- 2 Teams of staff shall be identified and commence COVID-19 cleaning and sanitizing throughout each day and evening (To include, but not limited to: Inmate Housing, work areas, vehicles, restraints, and inmate cells)
- Any cell where an inmate has been moved from after being tested positive for COVID-19 cell only be cleaned and sanitized by a trained Fire Safety Officer.
- Non-alcohol based hand sanitizer shall be placed inside each housing unit to be used to by both inmates and staff. However, CDC recommends that washing hands with soap and water works better than hand sanitizer, if that option exists.
- A nurse and/or medical staff are required to come into a Housing Unit multiple times a day for medication distribution, medical triage, and to pick up medical sick call lists. All inmates are encouraged to ask the nurse and/or medical staff any questions related to COVID-19 and shall have the opportunity to place themselves on the sick call list 7 days a week.
- Mental Health Staff are required to tour the housing units daily of those inmates that are isolated or quarantined.
- Out of cell activities to include outside recreation will continue but with social distancing.
- All staff have the opportunity to have their temperature taken upon entering any building.
- All staff shall be issued their own N95 masks and Latex gloves. Masks shall be worn at all times when within 6 feet of another person, as is the case in our communities with social distancing.
- Alcohol based hand sanitizer units have been placed at all entrances and exits to all buildings.
- Personal alcohol based hand sanitizers have been issued to all staff.
- Staff shall wear full PPE to include, but not limited to, head covering, mask, face shield, gown, gloves, and shoe covering, when within 6 feet of any inmate in a positive COVID-19 housing unit, and within 6 feet of any inmate active COVID-19 in the Infirmary or hospital.
- A shoe sanitizer station shall be set up at the exit to the COVID-19 positive Housing Unit/Infirmary for any staff member who leave that unit.
- COVID-19 tests shall be available for all staff showing any signs or symptoms of the virus.

It is important to know that these measures are in place for protection of the public, staff, and inmates. Whatever protection and prevention we do for staff and/or inmates protects all of us, as well as our communities. It is very important that both staff and inmates follow this plan and guidelines for all of us.