



COVID-19

Frequently Asked Questions PANDEMIC PROCEDURES

1. How many inmates besides the two who have tested positive are in isolation?

Answer: We isolate inmates for various medical reasons. There are inmates that may exhibit symptoms of covid-19 such as fever, but it may be related to an underlying condition or an unrelated infection. If they have been transferred from another state, we isolate them for 14 days before moving them into their unit. After an arrestee is processed through booking, we isolate them for 14 days before moving them into their unit.

2. When was the second test that came back positive administered?

Answer: This test was administered 4/9/2020

3. "Our current inmate population is approximately 1198 (as of 5/27/2020)." Is there really not an exact count?

Answer: The inmate count within the jail varies from hour to hour depending on arrestees processing into the jail, inmates bonding out, their jail sentence ending, transfers, where they are being held (Georgia Regional, another facility, etc.).

4. How many inmates have been tested in total?

Answer: As of 4/17/2020: 7 inmates have been tested for covid-19 to date: 2 positive, 2 negative, 3 pending result.

Update: As of 5/1/2020: 11 inmates have been tested for covid-19 to date: 2 positive, 9 negative, 0 pending, 1 recovered

Update: As of 5/27/2020: 153 inmates have been tested for covid-19 to date: 4 positive, 123 negative, 27 pending, 2 recovered

5. How many CCSO employees have been tested?

Answer: As of 4/17/2020: 11 staffers have been tested for covid-19 to date: 2 positive, 7 negative, 2 pending, 9 isolated at home that may have been exposed.

Update: As of 5/1/2020: 18 staffers have been tested for covid-19 to date: 2 positive, 11 negative, 4 pending, 0 recovered, 8 isolated at home that may have been exposed.

Update: As of 5/27/2020: 38 staffers have been tested for covid-19 to date: 2 positive, 32 negative, 3 pending, 2 recovered, 1 isolated at home that may have been exposed.

6. What day was the first covid-19 positive inmate quarantined?

Answer: 4/5/2020

7. Was the inmate moving around the facility as they normally would before the test?

Answer: Due to the pandemic, we are mandating social distancing whenever possible. Inmates have time outside of their cells throughout the day, in smaller sections at a time to allow enough space to maintain a minimum of 6-feet apart from each other.

8. How many cells/units does the Chatham County Detention Center have?

Answer: 2433

9. What are the dimensions of the cells? (Feet, Width, Height)

Answer: The cells are designed to meet the federal government specifications and guidelines

10. What are the dimensions of the beds? (Feet, Width, Height)

Answer: The beds are designed to meet the federal government specifications and guidelines

11. Why are the inmates not given masks?

Answer: Masks were distributed to all inmates beginning 4/16/2020. All inmates are required to wear masks outside of their cells. Arrestees are issued masks at booking.

12. Why don't inmates have hand sanitizer?

Answer: Inmates are provided anti-bacterial soap. Hand washing is recommended by the Center for Disease Control to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

13. On average, how many individuals are there to a cell?

Answer: Intake has one per cell. As a precautionary measure, we are isolating each new inmate from general population for 14 days and testing them for COVID-19 before moving them into general population. General population has two inmates to a cell; however, some cells in general population have one inmate.

14. How many inmates are in a unit?

Answer: As of 4/16/2020

Unit 1	approx. 153
Unit 2	approx. 144
Unit 3	approx. 184
Unit 4	approx. 130
Unit 6	approx. 233
Unit 7	approx. 245
Unit 8	approx. 7
Unit 9	approx. 85
Med	approx. 13
R&D	approx. 1

Update: as of 5/1/2020

Unit 1	approx. 194
Unit 2	approx. 155
Unit 3	approx. 185
Unit 4	approx. 175
Unit 6	approx. 238
Unit 7	approx. 127
Unit 8	approx. 0
Unit 9	approx. 95
Med	approx. 10
R&D	approx. 4
GA Regional:	approx. 16

Update: as of 5/26/2020

Unit 1	approx. 185
Unit 2	approx. 191
Unit 3	approx. 180
Unit 4	approx. 175
Unit 6	approx. 231
Unit 7	approx. 124
Unit 8	approx. 0
Unit 9	approx. 94
Med	approx. 14
R&D	approx. 8
GA Regional:	approx. 16

15. How do you test those who complain about having and/or show the symptoms of COVID-19?

Answer: We follow the instruction of our medical staff and the Georgia Department of Health

16. What methods are you all using to test individuals who may be asymptomatic?

Answer: We follow the instruction of our medical staff and the Georgia Department of Health

17. How often are you sanitizing the facility and the amenities (i.e phones, kiosks, showers etc.)?

Answer: Daily

18. Within the isolation cells, how many beds are there?

Answer: 2

19. Where are the isolation cells located?

Answer: Throughout the jail.

20. If more individuals test positive than you have room for in your isolation cells, how would you quarantine them? Is there a plan in place?

Answer: We quarantine the entire unit. Yes, there is a plan in place.

21. Who/What is your Medical Staff comprised of (i.e. PCP, CAN, etc.)?

Answer: Contact the Chatham County Manager's Office to request copies of the RFP and RFQ

22. Once an individual is quarantined for X number of days, do you administer another test to ensure that they are "cured"?

Answer: Yes, two tests are administered a minimum of 24-hours apart.

23. Were the (first 2 cases) two individuals who tested positive in the same unit?

Answer: Yes, they were in the same cell.

24. Once the first individual tested positive, did you test those who were in the same unit?

Answer: Following the instruction of the Georgia Department of Health, some inmates were tested and others were isolated.

25. How many days, on average, does it take the test results to come back?

Answer: 2 – 14 days

26. In the time that you all were waiting for the first individual's test results to come back, was he/she able to go about their daily routines? (refers to the first two cases)

Answer: No, they were immediately given medical care and kept in isolation.

27. What about the second individual (refers to the first two cases) (Was the second inmate that tested positive able to go about their daily routines)?

Answer: No, they were immediately given medical care and kept in isolation.

28. Can I enter the building to pay a bond for an inmate?

Answer: You may enter the main lobby with a mask or face covering (*covering your mouth and nose*). You must have your temperature checked at the entrance. Your temperature must not be above 100.3 to enter. If you do not have a mask or face covering, you will be asked to leave and may return when you are wearing one.

There is no seating available. You may pay the bond at the cashier station and exit the building. If you need to wait, you may do so outside in your vehicle or outside at a minimum of 6-feet away from other individuals.

29. Why are the individuals being held in their cells for approximately 23 hours per day?

Answer: Due to the pandemic, we are mandating physical distancing whenever possible. Inmates have time outside of their cells throughout the day, in smaller sections at a time to allow enough space to maintain a minimum of 6-feet apart from each other.

30. Why hasn't my loved one/family member been released from the Chatham County Jail?

Answer: To learn the legal status of your family member or loved one, contact their attorney. The Chatham County judicial system, the Chatham County district attorney's office and attorneys are working to process nonviolent offenders. The Chatham County Sheriff's Office receives a court order regarding the facilitation of an inmate's release.

Inmates do not leave the facility as a precautionary measure for trials, hearings, meetings with attorneys. These proceedings/meetings are now conducted over the phone or video. Only authorized personnel allowed into the facility after having their temperature taken.

31. The Governor of Georgia has lifted many restrictions, is the jail doing anything differently?

Answer: No, we continue to monitor the data related to covid-19 daily and are maintaining the strict safety protocols put in place to prevent the spread of the virus.

32. Are you opening back up May 13th?

Answer: We will continue to monitor the data and state of our community, staff and inmates and make the determination where and when to change the current safety/health precautions and procedures.

33. Are you opening back up mid-June?

Answer: We will continue to monitor the data and state of our community, staff and inmates and make the determination where and when to change the current safety/health precautions and procedures.

34. Since the Visitor's Center is closed, how do I communicate with an inmate in jail?

Answer: Until further notice, the online communication provider is allotting time to each inmate per week at no charge. Please follow this link and the instructions on the site:

<https://deposits.jailatm.com/webdeposits/>

Center for Disease Control: www.cdc.gov

For more information on the Chatham County Sheriff's Office:
#CCSOHealth

www.chathamsheriff.org

Chatham County Sheriff's Office Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ChathamCountySheriff>

Chatham County Sheriff's Office YouTube Channel:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMwxmOR2drkPhR4E_UccANw

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