Savannah, GA (April 8, 2020): Sheriff John T. Wilcher has issued the following statement:

The Chatham County Detention Center has one confirmed case of an inmate with COVID-19 as of 4/8/2020. The inmate is in a negative pressure isolation cell under the care of medical professionals. We are following the direction of the Georgia Department of Health and will quarantine all staff and inmates that may have been exposed. The temperature of potentially exposed inmates is taken twice per day. Potentially exposed staffers will quarantine at home. All inmates have immediate access to our 24-hour medical staff and facilities.

Access to the Chatham County Detention Center and facilities is restricted to authorized personnel only. Everyone must enter through our mandatory health screening entrance. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4 or above is denied access to our facilities. We are regularly sanitizing our facilities and vehicles.

When an inmate is processed into the Chatham County Jail, a nurse conducts a health screen. When an inmate is discharged from our jail, they receive a health screen and information regarding COVID-19. CCSO is working with the judicial system to decrease our inmate population through the appropriate processing procedures. We receive court orders dictating which inmates are   discharged.

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office is working with the Center for Disease control, the Georgia Department of Health, the Georgia Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Homeland Security to minimize and contain the Coronavirus within the jail and to prevent the spread outside the jail. We have an Infectious Disease Control Prevention nurse on staff.

My priority as Sheriff of Chatham County is the health and safety of our staff, inmates and everyone in our community. We will continue to keep you informed with regular updates, Please follow the Center for Disease Control's information at www.cdc.gov and follow us using #CCSOHealth, www.chathamsheriff.org and as always, you can call us at 912-652-7609