

Chatham County Sheriff's Office Staffer tests positive for COVID-19

Thursday, June 18, 2020 (Savannah, Georgia) - Sheriff John T. Wilcher has released the following statement:

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) has one confirmed case of COVID-19. The positive result is for a staffer that called in sick and did not come to work upon the onset of symptoms. They have not been to work since Saturday, June 13, 2020. This is the third covid-19 positive case of a staffer since the onset of the pandemic. Twelve staff members have been isolated at home and tested as precautionary measures.

The Chatham County Sheriff's Office continues to enforce the measures set in place for the pandemic. All inmates have immediate access to our 24-hour medical staff within the jail and they have waived the \$5 medical copay. We continuously monitor the health of the inmates and staff. If an inmate notifies an officer of any health or medical need, a member of the medical staff receives notification immediately. We have an Infectious Disease Control & Prevention nurse on staff. Each inmate has access to anti-bacterial soap and is required to follow the Center for Disease Control recommended guidelines for personal hygiene.

When an arrestee arrives at the Chatham County Detention Center, they undergo a temperature check and a series of covid-19 related questions. CCSO is issuing masks and isolating each arrestee for 14 days. A covid-19 test is required for each inmate before moving into general population. Masks are required if an inmate is outside of their cell. They rotate out of their cells in small groups throughout the day to maintain 6-foot physical distance.

Until further notice, the Visitor's Center is closed and only authorized personnel may enter into the CCSO facilities once they clear the temperature check and are properly wearing a mask. Online communication with inmates is encouraged during this time. The communications company is providing allotted time at no charge to each inmate.

My priority as Sheriff of Chatham County is the safety of everyone at the Sheriff's Office and the Detention Center, to include the detainees, staff and our community. We will continue to keep you informed with regular updates, follow us using #CCSOHealth, www.chathamsheriff.org, informational videos on our YouTube channel and our Facebook page. You may speak to an individual directly at 912-652-7609.

Please follow the Centers for Disease Control's information at www.cdc.gov

For more information, contact the Public Information Officer, Parla Parker: 912-660-9571
or piparker@chathamcounty.org