

MILWAUKEE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

MEMO

TO: MCLEEA

FR: Chief Deputy Denita R. Ball

RE: Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office COVID-19 Plan

Currently the United States is facing the beginning stages of a Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak with a potential to develop into a full-scale pandemic. Over one hundred individuals have contracted the virus in the United States with 6 deaths attributed, however it seems to be affecting the elderly or those with pre-existing underlying conditions with compromised immunity more critically. Worldwide, the problem is more acute in specific locations such as China, South Korea, Italy, and Iran.

Law Enforcement and Detention Officers are not immune to the virus, nor are the inmates entrusted into our care. Many inmates in our custody are at a higher risk due to their limited access to health care prior to arrest and the nature of the custodial environment. This risk can be attributed to many known facts, to include the close proximity of living conditions and the constant influx of new inmates. The Milwaukee County Jail houses up to 960 inmates at any given time and books and releases approximately 85 inmates every day.

So, as a result of the public health emergency, the Milwaukee County Criminal Justice Facility (CJF) has taken steps to ensure the safety of our staff and inmates by limiting exposure to the virus. Additionally, because we anticipate this virus could impact our available staffing, we have instituted the following measures which could impact your operations:

- All newly booked inmates will undergo additional screening with the Wellpath Coronavirus Supplemental Screening form and the appropriate actions will be taken.
- Contact visits are temporarily suspended. All professional visitors (attorneys and law enforcement) who normally visit inmates in direct contact booths will be directed to the non-contact booths that are on every floor. **NOTE:** Contact visits will only be allowed under special circumstances and must be approved by the shift commander.
- All felony summary arrests will be accepted into the facility.
- **Subjects arrested ONLY on a summary misdemeanor charge WILL NOT be accepted unless it is Domestic Violence related or Operating While Intoxicated 2nd offense (or higher).**
- The Chief Judge is being contacted to institute the aforementioned policy as stated above as it relates to warrant arrests.
- Subjects arrested **ONLY** on a felony Violation of Probation (VOP) shall **NOT** be admitted into CJF. These subjects should be taken directly to Milwaukee Secure Detention Facility (MSDF) to limit exposure.
- Subjects arrested **ONLY** on a misdemeanor VOP shall **not** be admitted into the MCJ. These subjects should be directed to the HOC.