



COVID-19 INITIATIVES: DALLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

In anticipation of COVID-19, the Dallas County Sheriff's Department drafted a plan in early March.

It is the priority of DCSO to make sure inmates and employees are served and protected during this outbreak. The Dallas County Sheriff's Office employees are equipped with the proper gear and knowledge to take care of incarcerated individuals in the Dallas County Jail. The Dallas County Jail has encountered and responded well to multiple individuals with different illnesses for years.

Standard operation procedures dictate that the Dallas County Jail sanitize and disinfect during all three shifts to help stop the spread of disease. Cleaning includes disinfecting common areas and surfaces. Mobile sanitation stations are also available throughout our facilities for employees.

Starting March 27, upon arrival, DCSO standard operation procedure will include checking the temperatures of employees assigned to the jail. Checking inmates' temperatures during the intake process is already a standard operation procedure even prior to COVID-19.

During the intake process, the Dallas County Sheriff's Office asks a set of preliminary questions recommended by Dallas County's healthcare partners.

Our health care professionals follow Dallas County Health and Human Services guidelines. COVID-19 tests are administered after meeting the Dallas County Health and Human Services criteria. Inmates that need quarantining are being housed in separate cells.

We will continue to work with our health care professionals and provide the best medical practices for the incarcerated population of Dallas County. The DCSO will follow all recommendations given by the Dallas County Health Authorities.

Outbreak Plan:

The Dallas County Sheriff's Office has three levels of quarantine.

Quarantine Response
1) An inmate that answers "YES" to preliminary screening questions during the intake process without symptoms will be assigned to designated cells
2) An inmate that shows symptoms of COVID-19 will be assigned to another designated area cell
3) An inmate that test positive for COVID-19 while in the Dallas County Jail will be quarantined in a zero pressure designated cell

*According to standard operation procedures, information about an inmates COVID-19 test cannot be provided to outside parties.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MARCH 27, 2020