

Lake County Sheriff's Office

Christopher Covelli, Sergeant
Public Information Officer
Desk: 847.377.4180
Fax: 847.984.5738
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25 S. Martin Luther King Jr., Ave
Waukegan, Illinois 60087

www.lakecountyil.gov/sheriff

John D. Idleburg
Sheriff

MEDIA RELEASE

Lake County Jail Increases COVID-19 Mitigation Procedures

The Lake County Sheriff's Office has continued following vigorous protocols in our ongoing efforts to best mitigate the risks from COVID-19 spreading among employees and jail inmates. Sheriff John Idleburg and his administrative team have been working in close collaboration with the Lake County Health Department in the mitigation effort.

In mid-July, an off-duty correctional officer began experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. The correctional officer took a COVID-19 test and learned he was positive. He did not return to work for 14-days following his positive test.

As a preventative measure and with the expansion of COVID-19 testing availability, in early August all Lake County Jail employees were provided COVID-19 tests. Of the nearly 140 tests provided, two correctional officers and one administrative assistant tested positive. All three were asymptomatic and had no signs of illness. Those employees were immediately placed in quarantine-protocol and were restricted from returning to work for 14-days.

To further strengthen our mitigation efforts the sheriff's office in collaboration with the Lake County Health Department will be providing COVID-19 tests to all inmates, correctional employees, facilities staff, and contractors who enter the jail facility.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic a total of six inmates, nine correctional officers, and one correctional administrative assistant have tested positive.

Sheriff John Idleburg added, "I view it as a top-priority to keep my employees as safe and healthy as possible, as well as the inmates in the jail who we are responsible to protect. Overall, our mitigation efforts have proven to be successful and we look forward to the ongoing increased testing in our facility."

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