



Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office

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MEDIA ALERT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 13, 2020

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Mecklenburg County Detention Officer Passes Away From COVID 19

(CHARLOTTE, NC) - The Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) was notified today that Detention Officer Coretta Downing, 51 years of age, passed away on Wednesday, August 12, 2020 due to complications from COVID 19. Officer Downing has been employed with MCSO since April 19, 2000 and had worked at the Mecklenburg County Detention Center as a detention officer for the duration of her career.

"MCSO is deeply saddened by the loss of Officer Downing; our hearts, prayers and condolences go out to her grieving family. This came as quite a surprise to our organization as we all are dealing with the grief of the passing of one of our own," says Sheriff Garry L. McFadden.

Officer Downing last worked at the facility on July 26th and notified her shift supervisor that she wasn't feeling well on July 29th when she called to inform them that she would not be coming to work and was going to seek medical attention. Officer Downing was hospitalized on July 30th and MCSO was notified today that she tested positive for COVID 19.

MCSO conducted contact tracing and notified any individuals who were determined to be in close contact with Officer Downing. No residents housed in the Mecklenburg County Detention Center were at risk of exposure since Downing had been assigned to the control room since April.

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