

## Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office

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## MEDIA ADVISORY FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **COVID-19 Mecklenburg County Detention Center Update**

(CHARLOTTE, NC) - The Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office continues to effectively manage the amount of COVID-19 cases within the detention center population. There are currently zero active resident COVID-19 cases. MCSO continues to work diligently with our contracted healthcare provider (Wellpath) and Mecklenburg County Public Health to stay ahead of a potential spread as the detention population fluctuates daily. There have been no resident hospitalizations or deaths related to COVID-19 at the Mecklenburg County Detention Center.

There are currently five active positive COVID-19 detention personnel cases and one officer-related COVID-19 death as reported previously. The health and safety of our patrons, employees, and residents remains a top priority in all our facilities. Social distancing, wearing masks, consistent cleaning, and following CDC guidelines have proven to shift in the decline of the virus exposure.

"Thus far our protocols in response to COVID-19 have been very effective and managing the virus in our detention centers. We have taken an abundance of caution to ensure that we are keeping everyone safe and have processed over 650 arrestees since March through our COVID-19 protocols. As restrictions are eased, we will remain very thoughtful and deliberate about how we safely begin to reopen parts of our detention operations, but it's still too early to speculate as to how that will look." We are continually evaluating our protocols and working diligently to keep everyone safe, said Sheriff McFadden. "We are still in a pandemic and we must continue to do what's healthy, safe and effective and the high risk detention environment."