



Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office

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MEDIA ALERT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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United States Marshal Service Relocates Federal Residents after Refusing to Increase Federal Housing Rate to the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office

(CHARLOTTE, NC) – The Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) received notification from the United States Marshal Service (USMS) Western District Chief Deputy, Christopher Edge, that the USMS Prisoner Operations Division (POD) would not agree to the Sheriff's Office proposed rate increase from \$160 to \$191 per day. The current rate has been in effect since June 1, 2020. This Agreement provided for the following:

The per-diem rate shall be fixed for a period from the effective date of this Agreement forward for twenty-four (24) months. The per-diem rate covers the support of one Federal detainee per "Federal detainee day", which shall include the day of arrival, but not the day of departure. After twenty-four (24) months, if a per-diem rate adjustment is desired, the Local Government shall submit a request through the United States Marshals Service (USMS) electronic Intergovernmental Agreements (eIGA) area of the Detention Services Network (DSNetwork).

MCSO submitted the requested rate increase to the USMS on February 12, 2023. After several inquiries the POD advised on May 10, 2023, they would not support the rate increase. Sheriff Garry McFadden sent a letter to United States Marshal, Terry Burgin on July 13, 2023, advising that without an agreement to negotiate in good faith, the USMS would need to be prepared to move their residents (approximately 200) within 30-days of the date of the letter. A meeting was held on July 26, 2023, and another letter was sent to Marshal Burgin following the meeting. However, MCSO recently received notification that the USMS has decided to relocate federal residents to other facilities.

Today the USMS has transferred 143 federal residents out of the Mecklenburg County Detention Center. There are still 40 federal residents remaining that will be relocated to other facilities over the next several days.

"I am disappointed that our efforts to ensure a reasonable rate, based on published federal guidelines and requirements was not accepted," said Sheriff McFadden. "I believe it is not responsibility of the Sheriff's Office to subsidize the federal government with county resources. We will work with the USMS to ensure a seamless transition of their residents. As always, we are willing to work with the USMS, but we are disappointed at their decision."

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