



Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Jerry L. Clayton

WCSO COVID-19 FAQ

Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office COVID-19 FAQ Updated 4/24/20

Stay Home, Stay Safe executive order

- **What does the Governors Stay Home, Stay Safe executive order mean for me?** As of April 24th the **Stay Home, Stay Safe Executive Order** has been updated. Here is a direct link to [Executive Order 2020-59](#). You can also read the press release [here](#). The new order will require people to wear homemade face coverings in enclosed public spaces. It will also lift some restrictions on outdoor activities and allow some workers who perform previously suspended activities to go back to work. Please remember to stay home as much as you possibly can and stay at least 6 feet from others if out. We know it's hard to continue staying home for many reasons, but social distancing is working. We've started to slow the spread of illness. However, we still continue to see new cases of COVID-19 every day in Washtenaw County, and must be cautious moving forward.
- **Where do I go if a business is violating the executive order?** Call Metro Dispatch at 734-994-2911 and you will be connected to your local police agency.
- **Do I need "papers or documentation" of my essential employee status when traveling to and from work?** No. Documentation is not needed to show your status as an employee. Additionally, we are not initiating traffic stops or pedestrian contacts for the sole purpose of verifying your reason for travel or to determine your final destination.

Police Related Questions

- **Are deputies still responding to calls?** Yes. As an essential service, deputies are still responding to calls. We will maintain a consistent level of quality service with a few additional precautions. New CDC guidelines suggest that first responders wear a mask while on shift. You will now see deputies wearing masks as they encounter others. Should you encounter a deputy they will be asking you three additional questions. These questions assist us in screening for potentially infected individuals.
 1. Do you have a new cough or flu like symptoms?
 2. Do you have a fever?
 3. Have you been around or come into contact with someone that has tested positive for COVID-19?



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Deputies will be taking certain non-emergent reports over the phone. Telephone reporting is not new, but more cases may be handled in this manner in order to limit the face-to-face contact for the community and deputies.

- **Should I call 911 if I see people or a business violating the 'Stay Home' order?** Call the non-emergency line at Metro Dispatch (734-994-2911). Originally, there was confusion and people were asked to contact the Attorney General's office, but once they were overrun with calls the decision was made to direct all calls to the local police agencies.

Inmate Information/Jail Questions

- **Can I still visit someone in the jail?** No. Due to the 'Stay Home' order, jail visits have been postponed until further notice. We understand that this causes concern, but in these unprecedented times, we are making every effort to limit exposing individuals. In place of visits, each person will receive two free 15-minute calls per week.
- **Does anyone in the jail have COVID-19?** Yes. For specific data on the jail population you can visit the [COVID-19 Jail Dashboard](#) and the [COVID-19 Intake vs. Release](#) report.
- **What are you doing to protect those currently in the jail?** If you have a loved one in the jail, rest assured that we are taking the necessary precautions to keep them safe.
 1. **Medical and Corrections staff are assessing everyone** seeking entry into the jail. This includes Corrections staff, arrested persons and arresting officers. Arrested individuals presenting COVID-19 symptoms will be immediately quarantined in the jail, staff will be sent home and arresting officers will not be allowed in the facility.
 2. **Temperatures** are being taken for everyone housed in the jail twice each day.
 3. **We have increased cleaning efforts.** Despite already having effective cleaning protocols in place, we have increased those cleaning efforts.
 4. **We have specific areas to locate and care for quarantined individuals** that have been mandated by the court to remain in jail.
 5. **A judicial review** of the case files of each incarcerated individual has been conducted resulting in the reduction of some sentences and a change in the bond status for some others (from cash bond to a personal recognizance bond).
 6. **The jail population is down significantly** as compared to last year's average daily population. This has allowed for greater flexibility in our housing plan and creation of more space among the incarcerated population.
 7. **Programming within the jail has been modified** to limit outside volunteers from entering the jail. Critical services are still being provided, but some programming has been suspended.
- **How can I let a family member in jail know that a member of our family is sick?** Call the jail (734-973-4770) and ask to speak with the on-duty command officer. The officer



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will notify your family member in the jail and we will provide them the opportunity to make contact with you.

Reentry Center Related Questions

- **Do I still need to report for drug testing?** No. Drug testing is suspended until further notice. You should continue to call daily for future instructions.
- **If I normally report for electronic monitoring and supervision, do I need to report in person?** No. All reporting is being done over the phone. Please call your assigned agent as required. You can find your agents number by calling 734-973-4520.
- **What if my electronic monitoring device dies?** Contact your Agent immediately via phone.
- **Do I still need to report if I have community service hours to complete?** No. The work program has been postponed until further notice.
- **Are my groups cancelled?** No. All face-to-face group meetings have been replaced with virtual group meetings. Please check in with your group facilitators for specific details.
- **Can I still reach Reentry Center staff if I have a serious need?** Yes. Reentry Center staff in Community Corrections (734-973-4520) and Community Engagement (734-973-4974) will be available by phone.

Additional Question

- **Where can I find the most accurate and up-to-date information?** Washtenaw County Health Department continues to provide the latest information at www.washtenaw.org/covid19. Michigan updates are available at www.michigan.gov/coronavirus, and national updates are at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus. Please rely on official sources for information.
- **What if I have court scheduled?** If you have business with the court, please visit the specific courts website for additional information.
 1. [Trial Court](#) (22nd Circuit downtown Ann Arbor)
 2. [15th District](#) (Ann Arbor City)
 3. [14B District](#) (Ypsilanti Township)
 4. [14A District](#) (Ypsi City, Saline, Chelsea, Service Center)



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- **What if I need a PPO?** The court does have a process in place for personal protection orders during this time. Please visit the courts [FAQ Information Sheet](#) for specific information related to PPO or other emergency court needs.