



*Kern County*

# **SHERIFF**

## **Interoffice Memorandum**

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To: Detentions Bureau

From: Chief Deputy James Morrison

Date: March 13, 2020

Re: Detentions Bureau COVID-19 Protocol

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This directive establishes the protocol in response to COVID-19. The Sheriff's Office has met with officials from Kern County Department of Public Health and Kern Medical and received recommendations, to establish a successful and safe directive. Lieutenant Jennings is the Detentions Bureau COVID-19 Liaison and can be reached at 661-391-3130.

Effective immediately the following services for the Detentions Bureau will be suspended:

- Public Visitation
- Inmate Classes, to include Blue Room Lunch Services
- Church Services

Professional and religious visits will be conducted on a one on one basis, following a medical screening.

The medical screening protocol and questions are included in this directive.

The facility and section protocols are outlined below.

### **CRF Protocol**

First and foremost, to protect our staff and inmates, we will be issuing masks to all inmates prior to entering the Central Receiving Facility. Masks will be issued by deputies working in receiving. The masks are for professional use, to be used in the jail environment, and are not to be taken home. The CRF protocol is as follows:

- Receiving Control Officer will notify the receiving deputies of an arrestee at the door
- Receiving deputy will respond to the door with a mask for the inmate and ensure the mask is properly placed on the inmate before allowing entry into the facility
- Receiving deputies will ensure the inmate is seen by medical staff for a temperature check and travel and contact questions ASAP, but no later than 15 minutes after the inmate has entered the facility

If medical staff determines the inmate does not have a fever, and there is no cause for concern regarding COVID-19, staff will ensure the inmate disposes the mask and may continue the booking process.

If medical staff determines the inmate has a fever, the arresting agency will be required to obtain a clearance from Kern Medical to book the inmate.

### **Substation Booking Protocol**



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Masks will be issued by deputies working in the substation jails. The masks are for professional use, to be used in the jail environment and/or transportation of inmates and are not to be taken home. The protocol is as follows:

- Receiving deputy will respond to the door with a mask for the inmate and ensure the mask is properly placed on the inmate before allowing entry into the facility
- The deputy will take the temperature of the inmate with the provided temporal thermometer
- If the inmate has a fever, a clearance to book is required
- If the inmate answers "Yes" to any of the COVID-19 medical screening questions, a clearance to book is required

#### **Transportation of Inmates from Other Agencies**

All transportation busses will be required to carry basic personal protection equipment. At the time of pick up from a foreign agency the transportation deputy will:

- Confirm the inmate is not running a fever
- Issue a mask and ensure the inmate wears the mask for the entire transport
- Seek medical screening at CRF or Lerdo ASAP

#### **Lerdo Drop Offs and Federal Bookings**

Masks will be issued to deputies working in receiving. The masks are for professional use, to be used in the jail environment, and are not to be taken home. The protocol is as follows:

- Receiving Control Officer or Max Duty Officer will notify the receiving/booking deputies of an arrestee at the door
- The deputy will respond to the door with a mask for the inmate and ensure the mask is properly placed on the inmate before allowing entry into the facility
- Deputies will ensure the inmate is seen by medical staff for a temperature check and travel and contact questions ASAP, but no later than 15 minutes after the inmate has entered the facility.

If medical staff determines the inmate does not have a fever, and there is no cause for concern regarding COVID-19, staff will ensure the inmate disposes the mask and may continue the booking process.



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If medical staff determines the inmate has a fever, the transporting agency will be required to obtain a clearance from Kern Medical to book the inmate.

**Kern Medical Protocol**

The questions Kern Medical staff is asking during screening at receiving are as follows:

- Have you traveled out of the Country within the last 2 weeks, specifically to China, Japan, North Korea or Italy?
- If yes, have you been in contact with any individuals who may have COVID-19 or symptoms of COVID-19?

It is the expectation, that in the absence of medical staff (substation jail, transportation, etc.) that you will ask these questions pending medical screening.