

COVID 19 Event

The health and safety of your loved one is our top priority. We know these are trying times and we will get through this together as a community. We would like to take this opportunity to provide you some information about what actions are being taken during this time in the jail facilities.

COVID related questions may be addressed by submitting an Inmate Care Concern below or you may call (713) 274-7477, Monday - Friday 7AM – 5PM.

- We are taking all necessary steps, precautions and a proactive approach for both staff and inmates during this pandemic event.
- All individuals entering our facilities are required to have their temperatures check by medical personnel daily.
- If staff have a temperature, they are not allowed within and are encouraged to seek medical treatment outside the facility.
- New arrest Medical Screenings are being conducted to include detailed exposure questions during the booking process. New arrestees are being self-quarantined for at least 7 days to rule out possible exposure.
- Inmates possibly effected and/or showing symptoms will be separated and quarantined in locations with separate air intakes for ventilation. The inmate will continuously receive medical attention.
- Any housed inmate becoming sick with flu like symptoms are encouraged to notify staff as soon as possible so medical treatment can be provided.
- We have test kits on site and available to screen inmates.
- If an inmate is sent to the clinic for any Medical reason, Sheriff Gonzalez has **waived all medical copays** for inmates during this pandemic event.
- Inmates and staff are encouraged to wash their hands with soap under running water for a minimum of **20 seconds** several times a day. Soap and cleaning supplies are readily available for use at all times.
- Facemasks have been provided for staff and inmates to be worn at all times.
- To prevent the potential spread, inmate visitation will be suspended until further notice. Inmates housed at the Joint Processing Center (JPC) will have the option do to video visitations – this service is only available for inmates

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housed at the JPC. The public can access video visitation from using a home computer and a webcam, from Monday through Friday from 4 p.m. until 9 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m. To obtain more information about our off-site video visitation please visit https://www.harriscountysoc.org/JailInfo/inmate_info_inmate_visitation.aspx

- Attorney-client interviews and other essential visits such as probation and parole visits will not be affected.
- All locations within the jails are being sanitized daily.
- Kitchen tools and cellblocks are sanitized several times a day.
- Meals are provided to all inmates **3 times daily**.
- Should your loved one need to request additional services, a kiosk is readily available and located within their housing location.
- In order to assure family and friends are able to communicate with their love ones, a free calling program has been implemented for our facilities. Securus will offer each inmate **five free calls per week in lieu of visitation**. The calls will be the same standard length that inmates have now.
- Inmate recreation is being provided via workout videos on the inmate television channel **three times a week**.
- Inmates scheduled to be released from custody will be released as normal. If they were housed in a quarantined cellblock, they will be advised of their medical conditions and recommended actions to take after release.