



Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail

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VPRJ ANNOUNCES POSITIVE COVID-19 RESULTS

Williamsburg, Virginia – Colonel Roy Witham provided the following statement regarding an inmate who has tested positive at the Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail (VPRJ):

“This morning, we were notified that an inmate’s test result came back positive for Covid-19. This inmate was committed to the custody of VPRJ on July 22, and was immediately placed into our quarantine unit, as has been our practice for new commits since March and the beginning of the pandemic. Following quarantine and medical observation, the inmate was transferred to a general population unit. During the inmate’s time in quarantine, the inmate did not display any symptoms of any illness. After being placed into a general population unit, the inmate began to display symptoms of illness. The inmate was immediately placed in isolation in our medical department and tested for Covid-19. This morning, that inmate’s test result was reported as positive. Upon notice of the positive result, I immediately made contact with the Peninsula Health District, and we are working with them to monitor and test the unit where the inmate was housed, along with VPRJ staff. The inmate is being monitored closely by our on-site physician and medical staff.

“Additionally, VPRJ has one staff member who has tested positive for Covid-19, and two staff members who are considered ‘patients under investigation’ and are awaiting test results. All of the aforementioned staff members are in quarantine; the staff member who tested positive is recovering.

“I want to be very clear; VPRJ has adhered to our local health district and the CDC’s guidance since the Covid-19 Pandemic began. We have conducted daily temperature checks on staff; instituted a mandatory mask policy when present anywhere within the facility for staff, as well as inmates; placed new commits into quarantine once they are booked into the facility; restricted movement among staff and inmates throughout the facility; prohibited members of the public from entering the facility unless they had a specific and approved reason such as needing to see the magistrate; and, cleaned and disinfected throughout the facility daily and routinely.

“VPRJ staff remain dedicated and will continue to follow the guidance of the Peninsula Health District and our on-site physician as we work to treat the inmate, test the exposed jail population and staff, and take steps to ensure the health and safety of our staff and those committed to our custody.”