



# *Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail*

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## **VPRJ ANNOUNCES SECOND INSTALLMENT OF COVID-19 TESTING**

Williamsburg, Virginia – On Thursday, August 20, 2020, all staff at the Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail (VPRJ), along with all inmates who were housed with the inmate who recently tested positive for Covid-19 (referenced in VPRJ’s press release dated August 13, 2020), underwent point prevalence testing for Covid-19. This decision was made out of an abundance of caution and in consultation with the Peninsula Health District as VPRJ continues to work through the Covid-19 pandemic. Testing was organized by the Peninsula Health District and conducted by the Virginia Department of Health.

Prior to today’s testing, VPRJ also tested inmates who were in direct contact with the initial positive inmate, as well as those who reported symptoms of illness who were housed in the same housing unit with the initial positive inmate. Of this group, eight inmates tested positive for Covid-19; one inmate has mild symptoms of illness, the other seven inmates are asymptomatic. Additionally, the initial positive inmate is now also asymptomatic. All of these inmates continue to be closely monitored and treated by our on-site physician, in consultation with the Peninsula Health District.

“We have been fortunate here at VPRJ throughout much of this pandemic, however, our posture in regards to Covid-19 has always been, “Not if, but when,”” stated Superintendent Colonel Roy Witham. “I take this development seriously, and immediately consulted with our partners at the Peninsula Health District and coordinated today’s testing. We remain prepared to test further as required, and per guidance of the Peninsula Health District, the Virginia Department of Health, and our staff physician. As we have since early March when this pandemic began, I will make every effort to keep the public and families of those who are incarcerated informed on our status.”