

WESTERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL JAIL

*Serving the City of Salem and the Counties of
Franklin, Montgomery, and Roanoke*

Colonel Bobby D. Russell
Superintendent

Major Amanda K. Trent
Services Division Commander



Lt. Colonel David F. Cox
Deputy Superintendent

Major Derek Stokes
Security Division Commander

MEDIA RELEASE

Western Virginia Regional Jail Response to Coronavirus Concerns

March 17, 2020 (Roanoke County, VA) The Western Virginia Regional Jail has instituted multiple procedures and adjustments due to the continued threat of the Coronavirus becoming a widespread issue in our local community. We will continue to modify our procedures based upon best practices to prevent an outbreak within the jail population. It is with the intentions of protecting our staff and inmate population that we are suspending community visitation with our inmates effective March 17, 2020. In-home video visitation will continue, as will the ability for inmates to make a limited number free telephone calls. In addition, all professional visitation shall be non-contact. These measures will be in effect until March 31, 2020, at which time we will assess the need to continue this suspension of normal visitation. Here are some other modifications we have made to combat an outbreak in the facility:

1. All inmates coming to WVRJ will be pre-screened before entering the jail. Any inmate exhibiting symptoms will likely remain in the local jails' custody depending on the specific circumstances regarding the need for advanced healthcare services.
2. There is an enhanced effort to sanitize all areas of the jail with hospital-grade disinfectant multiple times each day.
3. Staff and inmates have been educated on the benefits of handwashing as a major way to combat the spread of illness, including hand sanitizers.
4. There are plans to escalate appropriate quarantines in the jail should the virus show up in the inmate population. Any staff member that is sick will be required to stay home. The jail is in possession of personal protective equipment should the need arise to use it.

WVRJ will continue working closely with our community partners to stay on top of the situation and to adjust our response to any increased threats of the virus as we move forward. We are committed to making every effort to keep our staff, inmates and community safe as we face this public health threat.

If you have any questions, please contact Deputy Superintendent David F. Cox, 540-378-3702.



NATIONALLY ACCREDITED SINCE 2011

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