

# County of Santa Clara

## Office of the Sheriff

55 West Younger Avenue  
San Jose, California 95110-1721  
(408) 808-4400



### MEMORANDUM

---

Laurie Smith  
Sheriff

**TO** : All Personnel

**FROM** : Laurie Smith, Sheriff 

**SUBJECT** : COVID-19 Exposure Update

**DATE** : March 9, 2020

---

This afternoon, we became aware of a possible COVID-19 exposure within the Elmwood Correctional Facility. Last Friday, a person visited two inmates during the day. Later that evening, the visitor felt ill and was later confirmed to be positive for COVID-19. Both inmates have been identified and moved to isolation. At this time, neither inmate has exhibited symptoms of COVID-19 or any other illness, but due to their exposure to an infected person, we have taken measures to protect staff and inmates from further potential exposure. Both inmates are in seclusion, their cells are being sanitized, and research is being conducted to notify any staff members who may have had contact with the visitor.

We understand the seriousness of this exposure and are taking all of the necessary steps to ensure the safety, security, and well-being of those in our facilities. I have been working with the Courts and other County public safety entities to lower the risks to our staff and visitors by reducing the inmate population. We will be providing additional information regarding those efforts.