

## OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## NUMBER OF COVID CASES INCREASES AT SF COUNTY JAIL

SF Jail COVID-19 Infection Rates Rise But Remain at Least Half the U.S. Average

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – More than three dozen incarcerated persons are now in isolation after a COVID outbreak at San Francisco County Jail. Recent <u>data</u> from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shows that COVID test positivity rates and emergency room visits are steadily rising across the United States, <u>especially along both coasts</u>. CDC data shows a national COVID test positivity rate at 6.6% from June 9-June 15, while just today, 3.3% of the SF Jail inmate population tested positive for the virus.

Currently there are 42 confirmed positives in our custody, with the highest numbers reported at County Jail #3 in San Bruno, which also houses the largest jail population. Jail staff began seeing an uptick in COVID cases last Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> and took immediate steps to test and separate infected individuals from the rest of the population. High-risk patients will now have COVID testing ordered regularly.

Incarcerated people, and staff, including sworn peace officers, nurses, and teachers, are being encouraged to wear N-95 or KN-95 masks. Test kits are readily available. To prevent the spread of infection, staff are being advised not come to work if they are experiencing symptoms including fever, cough, congestion, sore throat, and body aches.

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