

Since being notified of the spreading COVID-19 virus, RSW has been working hard to prevent the introduction and spread into the facility. In an effort to communicate as openly as possible, we've created a timeline, which outlines our response so far.

- March 6, 2020- RSW stepped up daily cleaning requirements, ensuring the facility be cleaned and sanitized at multiple scheduled times throughout the day and night. All staff received training from Centers for Disease Control (CDC) regarding COVID-19
- March 10, 2020- CDC Informational packets regarding COVID-19 provided to all inmates.
- March 13, 2020- RSW enacted a preliminary screening questionnaire and physical temperature check on all new arrests prior to them entering the booking area.
- March 13, 2020 - After reviewing the information provided by the Centers for Disease Control, the Virginia Department of Health, and the Governor's Office, we decided to temporarily suspend all visitation and programs.
- March 17, 2020- RSW Director of Nursing, Major, and Superintendent conducted joint meeting with NRADC and Valley Health Director of Emergency Room Services regarding COVID-19.
- March 18, 2020- After thoroughly reviewing the current information on the COVID-19 virus, we made the decision to suspend our Work Release and Workforce programs for a minimum of two weeks.
- March 18, 2020- In an effort to keep families and friends connected with their loved ones, RSW provided inmates with one free phone call every three days.
- March 20, 2020- Due to procedure changes stemming from the COVID-19 virus, RSW temporarily stopped accepting money orders for deposits onto inmates' accounts. The online service [www.jailatm.com](http://www.jailatm.com) remained available, as well as the ATM machine in the front lobby.

- March 20, 2020- RSW provided a list of inmates with release dates 30, 60, 90 days away or that were currently on the Work Release program to the courts for consideration for alternatives to incarceration.
- March 20, 2020- All Pre-Trial drug/alcohol screenings and acceptance of delayed confinements and weekender inmates were suspended.
- March 23, 2020- LOBBY HOURS CHANGE- Our lobby hours changed from 9am-5pm. However, we continued to accept new committal undergarments, after hours.
- March 23, 2020- The Supreme Court of Virginia issued the attached order, which outlines measures the courts took to reduce the spread of COVID-19.  
[http://www.courts.state.va.us/2020\\_0316\\_scv\\_order\\_declaration\\_of\\_judicial\\_emergency.pdf](http://www.courts.state.va.us/2020_0316_scv_order_declaration_of_judicial_emergency.pdf)
- March 24, 2020- RSW began screening all employees entering the facility with a questionnaire and physical temperature check.
- March 24, 2020- The decision was made to house all new committals separately up to 14 days before allowing them into general population.
- March 25, 2020- The lobby and public restrooms were closed in an effort to reduce the possibility of introducing the COVID-19 virus into the facility. Attorneys and other necessary professional visitors were still granted access, after a brief screening and physical temperature check.
- March 25, 2020- The Jail ATM kiosk was moved into the vestibule to allow 24 hour a day availability to the public wishing to place money on an inmate's account hours a day to anyone wishing to place money on an inmate's account.
- March 27, 2020- All RSW staff issued PPE kits, including N95 respirator masks.
- March 30, 2020- Due to the federally mandated extension for social distancing, all programs, public visitations, workforce, and work release programs were suspended until April 30, 2020.
- April 24, 2020- In an effort to keep everyone as updated as possible, we are announcing that, late yesterday afternoon, April 23, 2020, we were informed of a confirmed case of COVID-19 with one of our staff members. This person is a support staff member, who does not have direct inmate contact and has not been in the building in over a week. This staff member began feeling ill over the weekend while at home, was tested earlier this week, and received the confirmation yesterday. The Virginia Department of Health

believes this staff member possibly contracted the virus from their spouse, who works at a poultry plant in Rockingham County. The staff member is in contact with the VDH and their primary care physician and is resting in self-isolation at home.

A second support staff member, who was in close contact with this staff member, has been directed to self-isolate at home for 14 days, at the direction of the Virginia Department of Health. This staff member is not displaying any symptoms at this time. Currently, there are no suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the facility. We are continuing to take steps to keep our staff and the inmates as safe as possible by screening everyone entering the facility, cleaning and sanitizing day and night, and utilizing PPE. We will continue to update everyone as the situation evolves.

Please click on the link below to see updates that we have published for COVID-19:

- April 29, 2020- Due to the recent extension of the Governor's order, all programs at RSW Regional Jail have been suspended until at least May 8, 2020. We will continue to monitor the situation and update you once more information is available.
- April 30, 2020- Today we've taken delivery of cloth masks that will be provided to all inmates. These masks were purchased from Virginia Correctional Enterprises, which employs inmates from the Virginia Department of Corrections.

In addition to the above steps, we have enacted procedures to handle a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 should it occur in the facility. We continue to monitor the recommendations from The Centers for Disease Control and the Virginia Department of Health and will make any necessary changes or updates, as the situation continues to move forward.