

March 16, 2020

Re: Multi-Agency Coordinating Group (MAC) / COVID-19

Dear Sheriffs, Chiefs, and Jail Administrators,

As you know, the last week has been eventful. The emergence of COVID-19 has resulted in changes to the daily lives of most people, and to your respective operations and facilities.

The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction/Bureau of Adult Detention has not been immune to this situation. In response to the current situation, there have been changes made to ODRC/BAD operations; one of which is the establishment of a Multi-Agency Coordinating Group, also known as a MAC.

This action is being taken in order to provide a more efficient process for the communication of critical and non-critical information from the jails to the ODRC/BAD and from the ODRC/BAD to the jails. This will be especially useful for communications after normal business hours, on weekends, and during holidays. For your convenience, we would still encourage you to contact your local Jail Inspector for routine matters, during normal business hours, Monday through Friday. Updated contact information and the Regional Jail Inspector Map have been included.

As Deputy Director, I will be directing all aspects of the MAC and the table of organization will be as follows:

Ed Voorhies – MAC Group Supervisor, Edwin.Voorhies@odrc.state.oh.us

John Adams – MAC Operations Manager, John.Adams@odrc.state.oh.us

Shelly Viets – MAC Clinical Operations Manager, Michelle.Viets@odrc.state.oh.us

Items that should be reported to the MAC are matters related to COVID-19. These include the following:

- Any suspected cases of COVID-19 in your facility; inmates or staff.
- Any testing ordered due to the suspected presence of COVID-19.
- Any quarantines implemented due to suspected COVID-19.
- Any operational difficulties encountered due to COVID-19.
- Any staffing issues encountered by the jail.
- After-hours reporting of critical incidents.

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Any of the listed items are required to be reported to the ODRC/BAD through the MAC immediately. To report any of the items previously listed, you should contact the on-duty staff member at:

614-387-0813

You can also report these matters by sending an email to:

DRCAdult.Detention@odrc.state.oh.us.

Lastly, as part of the implementation of the MAC, the ODRC/BAD will be providing briefings/sit-reps on a daily basis, throughout the workweek and as needed during all other times.

Please note that all jail inspections have been temporarily suspended in order to better serve the jails and the community. This will enable the ODRC/BAD to focus attention on more pressing matters, such as the investigation of complaints and critical incidents. During this time, ODRC/BAD will be providing an immediate response to these matters. Jail Inspectors will be responding to the jails only as necessary to conduct their investigations. All other matters will be handled through phone or email communications, as appropriate. This will provide a more efficient use of time and manpower for both the ODRC/BAD and the jails.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. We appreciate all that you are doing to successfully deal with this situation.

Sincerely,



Ed Voorhies
Deputy Director
MAC Group Supervisor

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