



MEDIA RELEASE

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
Sheriff-Coroner

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Jim Hart
Sheriff-Coroner

Media Release: March 4, 2020 Coronavirus Precautions

In response to the newly issued Declaration of Local Health Emergency by the Santa Cruz County Health Officer regarding the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), the Sheriff's Office is taking several steps to mitigate risk.

County Administrative Officer, Carlos Palacios, will also formally ask the Board of Supervisors to declare a local emergency over COVID-19. The Board of Supervisors will be asked to ratify the declarations at its March 10, 2020 meeting.

As a precaution the Sheriff's Office is temporarily stopping jail tours, screening those being brought to the main jail and stopping contact visits at our facilities.

We are taking this precaution for the safety of our incarcerated persons, staff and visitors.

Our corrections medical staff has been closely monitoring the situation and at this time there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our jail.

"We are taking proactive steps to minimize any potential threat to those not only living in our facilities, but also working there or coming to visit," said Sheriff Jim Hart.

We would like to thank the public for their patience and understanding.

PREPARED BY:
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