



From: Cook County Sheriff's Office <cookcountysheriff@govqa.us>
Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 at 8:44 PM
To: AO Records <records@americanoversight.org>
Subject: [Ext][Records Center] FOIA Request :: R006424-042120

--- Please respond above this line ---

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RE: PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST of April 21, 2020, Reference # R006424-042120.

Dear Austin Evers,

Thank you for contacting the Cook County Sheriff's Office ("CCSO") pursuant to the Illinois Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 ILCS 140/1 et seq. (2012).

Your request mentioned:

Please see the attached request (IL-COOK-20-1000), which contains our fee waiver justification.

1.All email communications (including email messages, complete email chains, email attachments, calendar invitations, and calendar invitation attachments) between Sheriff Thomas Dart, Chief of Staff Bradley Curry, etc. and a)Governor Jay Pritzkerb)Chief of Staff Anne Caprara (anne.caprara@illinois.gov)c)Lieutenant Governor Juliana Strattond)Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoote)Chief of Staff Maurice Classen Maurice.Classen@cityofchicago.orgf)Deputy Governor Dan Hynes (Dan.Hynes@Illinois.gov)g)Deputy Governor Sol Flores (Sol.Flores@illinois.gov)h)Senior Adviser Nikki Budzinski (Nikki.Budzinski@Illinois.gov i)General Counsel Ann Spillane (Ann.Spillane@Illinois.gov) Healthcare and Family Services Director Theresa Eagleson Department of Healthcare and Family Services (Theresa.eagleson@illinois.gov)k)Director Illinois Department of Public Health Ngozi Ezike, MD (Ngozi.Ezike@illinois.gov)l)Illinois Department of Public Health Chief of Staff Justin DeWitt (justin.dewitt@illinois.gov)m)Acting Director Department of CorrectionsRobJeffreys (Rob.Jeffreys@Illinois.gov)n)To n i P r e c k w

inkle (Toni.preckwinkle@cookcountyil.gov

The Cook County Sheriff has reviewed its files and has located responsive records to your request. Please log in to the FOIA Request Center at the following link to retrieve the appropriate responsive documents. Private information is redacted in accordance with FOIA.

[FOIA Request - R006424-042120](#)

If you have any questions, or wish to discuss this further, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Scannell
Cook County Sheriff's Office
FOIA Officer/Legal Department

DATA DISCLAIMER:

The CCSO strives to provide accurate and complete information. Although the data provided has been produced and processed from sources believed to be reliable, no warranty is made regarding the accuracy, adequacy, completeness, legality, reliability or usefulness of any information. This disclaimer applies to both isolated and aggregate uses of the information.

NOT REQUIRED TO INTERPRET OR EXPLAIN:

Please be advised that, pursuant to 5 ILCS 140/3.3, the purpose of FOIA is not to compel public bodies to interpret or advise requesters as to the meaning or significance of the public records, nor to compel a response to interrogatories.

To monitor the progress or update this request please log into the [FOIA Request Center](#)

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SHERIFF THOMAS DART
Cook County Sheriff's Office
Richard J. Daley Center
50 Washington Street, Suite 704
Chicago, Illinois 60602

April 4, 2020

Via Electronic Mail

Robert Jeffreys
Acting Director
Illinois Department of Corrections
Robert.Jeffreys@illinois.gov

Dear Director Jeffreys,

In light of the COVID-19 crisis, the Cook County Sheriff is working closely with local stakeholders to evaluate the Cook County Department of Corrections ("CCDOC") detainee population on a daily basis. As a part of this process, we are asking the Illinois Department of Corrections ("IDOC") to implement a process to identify IDOC inmates who have a Cook County hold. Traditionally, such individuals would be transferred from IDOC—upon satisfying their sentence—to CCDOC in order to be processed by the County.

Specifically, please send the Sheriff's Office a list of all inmates who have a County hold, with applicable identifiers, at least sixty (60) days prior to their release from IDOC. This advance warning will provide the Sheriff, the Cook County State's Attorney, and other local stakeholders the opportunity to evaluate the hold and whether the individual needs to be transferred to CCDOC for pretrial detention or to serve a County sentence.

Please let me know whatever information is needed from the Sheriff to establish this information-sharing process as quickly as possible. We appreciate your partnership in this difficult time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Curry".

Brad Curry
Chief of Staff
Cook County Sheriff's Office



SHERIFF THOMAS DART
Cook County Sheriff's Office
Richard J. Daley Center
50 Washington Street, Suite 704
Chicago, Illinois 60602

April 21, 2020

Via Electronic Mail

Robert Jeffreys
Acting Director
Illinois Department of Corrections
Robert.Jeffreys@illinois.gov

Dear Director Jeffreys,

As you know, on March 26, 2020 Governor Pritzker issued Executive Order No. 11 in response to the Novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19") pandemic. This Executive Order suspended admission of inmates to the Illinois Department of Corrections ("IDOC") from all Illinois county jails, including the Cook County Department of Corrections ("CCDOC"). When we spoke with the Governor's Office regarding the Executive Order, they advised that the Illinois Department of Corrections would be willing to work with us.

The Sheriff's Office is now holding approximately fifty inmates at CCDOC who must be transferred to IDOC to satisfy their sentence. This number continues to grow. We are actively litigating CCDOC's social distancing procedures, meaning that space is at a premium right now and of the utmost importance. The Illinois Sheriff's Association recently suggested that IDOC is willing to accept inmates who have tested negative for COVID-19. Each of the fifty inmates awaiting transfer has been quarantined in accordance with CDC guidelines, and we are prepared to test each of them before initiating transfer. We must transfer them to IDOC custody immediately. We are prepared to assist in whatever way is needed to begin this process as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Curry".

Brad Curry
Chief of Staff
Cook County Sheriff's Office

CC: *Office of the Illinois Governor*



SHERIFF THOMAS DART
Cook County Sheriff's Office
Richard J. Daley Center
50 Washington Street, Suite 704
Chicago, Illinois 60602

April 2, 2020

Via Electronic Mail

Director Ngozi Ezike
Illinois Department of Public Health
122 S. Michigan Avenue
7th and 20th Floors
Chicago, IL 60603

RE: COVID-19 Rapid Test / CCDOC Testing Site

Director:

I write to renew our request for COVID-19 rapid testing at the Cook County Department of Corrections ("CCDOC"), and to ask that CCDOC be established as a formal testing site. Currently, 46 staff members have confirmed cases of COVID-19, including civilians and sworn law enforcement. 167 detainees have tested positive for COVID-19, and 40 have pending results, of a total population of over 4,600. Experts agree that jails are at the epicenter of the virus, and due to inevitable proximity of staff and detainees it is critical that we are able to return testing results quickly to isolate anyone who has been infected.

We have reached out to Abbott Laboratories in order to obtain access to the Abbott ID NOW COVID-19 test, recently approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. We would greatly appreciate your support in being prioritized for access to such testing, and are asking the IDPH expedite establishing CCDOC as a formal testing site. We are available and ready to assist in any way needed. Please contact Senior Advisor Rebecca Levin, MPH at 312-636-7456 to discuss.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Curry".

Brad Curry
Chief of Staff
Cook County Sheriff's Office

CC: Dr. Allison Arwady, Commissioner, Chicago Department of Public Health
Dr. Connie Mennella, Cermak Health Services
Christian Mitchell, Deputy Governor, Office of the Governor - Illinois
Illinois Emergency Management Agency



SHERIFF'S OFFICE OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
RICHARD J. DALEY CENTER, CHICAGO, IL 60602
THOMAS J. DART

March 27, 2020

Director Ngozi Ezike
Illinois Department of Public Health
122 S. Michigan Avenue
7th and 20th Floors
Chicago, IL 60603

Dear Director Ezike,

I am deeply grateful to you and your staff, as you work tirelessly to combat the COVID-19 crisis across Illinois. As you know, the Cook County Department of Corrections is the largest single-site correctional facility in the country. With most court proceedings suspended, detainees continue to enter CCDOC custody. CCDOC staff, along with Cermak Health Services, are working overtime to screen each new detainee, isolate them for observation, and identify any new cases across the population of over 5,000 detainees.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to spread across the state and the country, we are experiencing the impact of the virus directly on our operations. Currently, the Sheriff employs 4,880 sworn and 827 civilian staff across the jail, community corrections, the Sheriff's Police Department, and the Court Services Department. In addition to the detainee population, sworn investigators monitor over 2,500 criminal defendants released into the community on the Sheriff's electronic monitoring program.

As of the date of this letter, 38 detainees have tested positive for the virus and have been placed in isolation at Cermak Health Services, the medical facility located within the jail. Further, as of today's date nine employees have tested positive for the virus, including sworn law enforcement officers. Our employees, as emergency responders, do not have the option of distancing themselves from others in this time of crisis.

Due to the unique challenges we face in managing a constant population influx at DOC in the wake of the crisis, we are requesting the IDPH accelerate testing for detainees. Currently, detainee testing is processed through Stroger Hospital, which sends the test out to a lab. Results typically take 3-4 days. We understand that specimens from the DOC could be tested by the IDPH lab, but we have been told that the turnaround time would be roughly the same.

In addition, the Sheriff's Office is requesting one hundred thousand (100,000) N95 masks to be deployed for use throughout our essential operations in the jail, electronic monitoring, court services, and Sheriff's police. We are also requesting additional PPE including 3-ply surgical masks, latex gloves, disposable

coveralls, paper gowns, and eye protection (goggles or face shields). As we work continuously to clean and sanitize the massive 96-acre CCDOC jail complex, we are in need of an extensive amount of sanitation supplies and would greatly appreciate your support in obtaining additional supplies as quickly as possible.

We recognize that all resources are stretched right now, however it is critical that testing be expedited and supply deliveries be prioritized in order to identify cases early and prevent the spread of the virus across DOC. Given your professional background, no one knows better than you the impossibility of social distancing in a corrections facility and the extreme vulnerability of the population. We have been told that “rapid” testing, which takes anywhere from 45 minutes to 4 hours, is an option. Please implement such rapid processing for CCDOC testing immediately. We are able to assist in any way needed. Please contact Senior Advisor Rebecca Levin, MPH at 312-636-7456 to discuss.

Sincerely,



Brad Curry
Chief of Staff
Cook County Sheriff's Office

CC: Dr. Allison Arwady, Commissioner, Chicago Department of Public Health
Dr. Connie Mennella, Cermak Health Services
Christian Mitchell, Deputy Governor, Office of the Governor - Illinois



SHERIFF THOMAS DART
Cook County Sheriff's Office
Richard J. Daley Center
50 Washington Street, Suite 704
Chicago, Illinois 60602

April 11, 2020

Via Electronic Mail

Illinois Emergency Management Agency
ATTN: Alicia Tate-Nadeau, Director
C/O Jimmy Thompson, Regional Coordinator
C/O Wendell Brewer, Specialist

Director Tate-Nadeau,

Thank you for your continued cooperation in facilitating supply deliveries to the Cook County Jail. As CDC guidance evolves, we have continued to update our policies to provide masks to additional staff and detainees, as necessary. In consideration of this guidance, on April 9 Northern District of Illinois Judge Kennelly ordered us to provide all quarantined detainees with 3-ply masks. This directive nearly doubles our current usage and we anticipate that in complying with recent changes to CDC guidance, as affirmed by this order, we will be utilizing 4,700 masks per day.

Accordingly, we are requesting immediate escalation of our delivery volume in order to account for this increase. We have a continued need for gowns, N95 masks, gloves, eye protection shields or goggles, and hand sanitizer that we also ask you to continue to prioritize. Please contact the Sheriff's Office as soon as possible to facilitate delivery, including regular staged deliveries if necessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Curry".

Brad Curry
Chief of Staff
Cook County Sheriff's Office

From: Natalie Camer (Sheriff) <Natalie.Camer@cookcountyil.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 7:43 PM EDT
To: sean.rapelyea@illinois.gov <sean.rapelyea@illinois.gov>; Christian.Mitchell@illinois.gov <Christian.Mitchell@illinois.gov>
CC: Bradley Curry (Sheriff) <Bradley.Curry@cookcountyil.gov>; Elizabeth Scannell (Sheriff) <Elizabeth.Scannell@cookcountyil.gov>
Subject: Letter to Governor Pritzker
Attachment(s): "Ltr to Governor Pritzker 4.29.20.pdf"

Good evening Deputy Governor Mitchell and Deputy Chief of Staff of Government Affairs Rapelyea,

Please see attached letter to Governor Pritzker from Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart.

Thank you and have a good evening,

Natalie Camer
Cook County Sheriff's Office
Office: [773-674-7710](tel:773-674-7710)
Cell: [773-717-6357](tel:773-717-6357)

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SHERIFF THOMAS DART
Cook County Sheriff's Office
Richard J. Daley Center
50 Washington Street, Suite 704
Chicago, Illinois 60602

April 29, 2020

Via Electronic Mail

Governor J.B. Pritzker
Office of the Illinois Governor

Dear Governor Pritzker,

The Sheriff's Office has reached out to the Illinois Department of Corrections ("IDOC"), as well as leadership within your office, in order to facilitate the transfer of inmates being held at the Cook County Department of Corrections ("CCDOC") under Executive Order No. 11, issued in response to the Novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19") pandemic. Under this order, you suspended admission of inmates to IDOC, and thereby placed the burden of housing and caring for these IDOC inmates—who are the legal responsibility of the State, not the County—squarely on the shoulders of my staff.

Last week, we again contacted IDOC to find a compromise regarding forty inmates awaiting transfer, including our offer to test each inmate and only transfer those who have been confirmed negative for COVID-19. This request, along with all the others, went unanswered. We now have 120 IDOC inmates in CCDOC awaiting transfer. Fifty-five of these inmates have been quarantined for 14 days. We are actively litigating CCDOC's social distancing policies—meaning that every available bed is critical.

I am deeply concerned by the silence on the part of the state as it relates to this growing number of inmates who are on a parole hold or have been adjudicated and sentenced to IDOC custody, and yet remain in pretrial detention and in our care. I trust you will respond to this correspondence promptly. I was under the impression that we were all in this together. We look forward to your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas J. Dart".

Thomas J. Dart
Cook County Sheriff

CC: Robert Jeffreys, Director, Illinois Department of Corrections



SHERIFF THOMAS DART
Cook County Sheriff's Office
Richard J. Daley Center
50 Washington Street, Suite 704
Chicago, Illinois 60602

SENT VIA EMAIL

March 13, 2020

The Honorable Toni Preckwinkle
President
Cook County Board of Commissioners
118 North Clark Street Room 537
Chicago, Illinois 60602

The Honorable Dorothy Brown
Clerk of the Circuit Court
50 West Washington, Room 1001
Chicago, Illinois 60602

The Honorable Judge Timothy C. Evans
Chief Judge
Circuit Court of Cook County
Richard J. Daley Center
50 West Washington, Room 2600
Chicago, Illinois 60602

The Honorable Kimberly Foxx
Cook County State's Attorney
69 West Washington, Suite 3200
Chicago, Illinois 60602

The Honorable Amy Campanelli
Cook County Public Defender
69 West Washington, Suite 1600
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Dear Stakeholders:

These unprecedented times demand we act in unity and in the best interests of those we serve. Halting many court hearings for 30 days in our system is likely to significantly increase the jail population and stop important processes due to detained defendants and for resolving cases. As we discussed today, my office has developed an innovative plan where new detainees brought into the jail will be housed, by intake day, for 7 days to monitor for symptoms of Coronavirus. Stopping the criminal hearing process will increase the jail population, making it impossible for us to segregate new detainees, putting staff, detainees and the public at risk for Coronavirus. Each day, between 80 and 100 detainees are released from my custody as a result of bond being posted or cases being disposed of, many through a plea agreement.

For custodial defendants, I propose the following steps be considered and implemented as quickly as possible:

1. Bond reduction hearings for all defendants who currently have a low bond and/or those being held on Violations of Probation for technical violations.
2. Immediate review for release of pregnant detainees currently in custody on drug or non-violent charges.
3. Implementation of ZOOM technology to allow all cases to proceed via videoconferencing for routine status hearings.
4. Consolidate all in-person hearings for criminal cases to the Criminal Court Building to limit the need for transportation.

For individuals coming in for new bond hearings, I agree with Public Defender Campanelli that the court should consider I-Bonds for low-level offenders.

The Public Defender's office has requested rosters of several subsections of the jail population. My office has provided these and will continue to work closely with the Public Defender's Office.

I look forward to working with you to implement these procedures to ensure we are prioritizing the rights and health and safety of all those who depend on us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas J. Dart', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Thomas J. Dart
Sheriff of Cook County