

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA
TERRE HAUTE DIVISION

JAUSTON HUERTA, ET AL
Plaintiffs,

vs.

CAUSE NO. 2:16-CV-397-JMS- MJD

JOHN PLASSE, ET AL
Defendants.

DEFENDANTS COVID-19 STATUS REPORT

The Defendants, John Plasse, individually and in his official capacity as Sheriff of Vigo County, the Vigo County Commissioners, Brad Anderson, Judy Anderson and Brendan Kearns, in their official capacity, the Vigo County Council, Aaron Loudermilk, Jim Mann, Mike Morris, Lisa Spence-Bunnett, Chris Switzer, David Thompson and Vicki Weger in their official capacity, by counsel, file this status report in response to the Court's December 15, 2020 order [Dkt. 287].

The number of prisoners who have been infected with the disease, including where infected prisoners are housed in the Jail:

One hundred eight (108) Jail inmates have tested positive for Covid-19. Inmates with positive tests are housed on the same floor with access to intercom communication.

What type of medical attention have those prisoners received and what will be received in the future if changes are being received in treatment protocols?

Jail nurses spoke to inmates in each cellblock when the outbreak began. Covid-19 symptoms were explained and inmates were instructed to report any symptoms to correctional officers. Inmates reporting or experiencing symptoms are examined by the Jail nurse. The Jail nurse also interacts with inmates twice a day during medication pass and asks each about illness or symptoms being experienced.

Inmates are instructed to wear masks when not in their bunks, wash their hands frequently, and not put anything in their mouth they may have been touched by another inmate. Supplies are given to inmates each day to clean their cells. Correctional officers are responsible for cleaning of all hard surfaces outside individual cells. The cleaning of hard surfaces was performed by Jail trustees until the outbreak but is now done by jail staff to prevent further spread of the virus.

No Covid-19 positive inmate has required hospitalization or treatment at an outside facility. The

lockdown in effect was- recommended by the Indiana Department of Health and is intended to limit the virus to those already infected.

The specific steps being taken to protect prisoners who are not infected, including where noninfected prisoners are being housed at the Jail:

Inmates testing negative are housed in separate cellblocks from inmates with positive tests. All cellblocks have been locked down at the Health Department's direction to limit and prevent the virus from spreading further.

The results of the Board of Health visit to the Jail, its recommendations, and the steps being taken to implement the recommendations:

The Health Department performed the Covid-19 inmate tests but meetings and conferences with Health Department representatives have been remote. The Health Department recommended the lockdown in effect as well as instructing each inmate to wear a mask when not in their bunk, wash their hands frequently and put nothing in or around their mouth that may have been touched by another inmate.

The Health Department recommended inmates be checked daily and report symptoms to correctional officers immediately. The Jail nurse asks each inmate -during medication pass twice a day of Covid-19 related symptoms. Inmates with symptoms are tested and quarantined until obtaining test results.

Any and all Covid-19 protocols in place at the Jail

A lockdown of all cellblocks is in effect through December 23. Jail staff will clean surfaces outside cells indefinitely. Correctional officers instruct inmates to wear masks when not in their bunks, wash hands frequently and keep items touched by other inmates away from their face and mouth. Supplies are given to inmates each day to clean their cells and areas are cleaned after recreation for each cellblock.

Whether or not any prisoners have been transported to hospitals for emergency care or special treatment related to coronavirus or its symptoms

No inmates with positive tests or virus related symptoms have required hospitalization for emergency care or special treatment related to Covid-19.

All other pertinent issues relating to the disease and the Jail's population

The Jail will continue to follow the recommendations of the Health Department and follow CDC guidelines to limit and prevent further spread of the virus.

WILKINSON, GOELLER, MODESITT,
WILKINSON & DRUMMY, LLP
333 Ohio Street
Terre Haute, Indiana 47807
DPFriedrich@wilkinsonlaw.com
(812) 917-2815 phone
(812) 235-5107 fax

By: /s/ David P. Friedrich
David P. Friedrich
Attorney No. 15164-84

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned, attorney for Defendants, certifies that a copy of the foregoing document was served electronically to the following:

Mr. Michael Sutherlin
Mr. Craig M. McKee
Mr. Michael J. Wright
Mr. Kenneth Falk

dated this 18th day of December, 2020

/s/ David P. Friedrich
David P. Friedrich
Attorney No. 15164-84