



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA


HAROLD W. CLARKE
DIRECTOR

Department of Corrections

P. O. BOX 26963
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23261
(804) 674-3000

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MEMORANDUM

To: Sheriffs and Regional Jail Administrators
From:  Harold W. Clarke
Director

Subject: Jail Intake

As you are aware the Department of Corrections (DOC) suspended jail intake for 30 days on March 12, 2020. While we understand the hardship imposed on local and regional jails by this policy change, DOC is actively engaging with stakeholders to address concerns.

In order to provide relief to jails during the COVID-19 pandemic, DOC will be taking custody of sentenced, state responsible offenders that fall into the following categories as they become eligible for intake and suitable bed space is available:

- Management problems – such as serious behavioral or disciplinary problems
- Medical problems – offenders with serious, long-term medical problems (such as cancer patients undergoing or requiring treatment) or needing surgery for a life-threatening or serious condition where the jail does not have appropriate facilities to accommodate the offender during treatment and/or recovery
- Mental health – offenders with serious mental health problems resulting in behavioral issues (suicidal, homicidal, destructive, etc.) when the jail does not have adequate facilities or access to mental health professionals to accommodate the offender
- Male offenders under age 18

At this time, a positive case of COVID-19 does not constitute a reason for immediate intake into the Department of Corrections.

DOC is continuing to monitor this rapidly changing situation and we will update you if these policies change.