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**PAUL MIYAMOTO
SHERIFF**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

SECOND HALL OF JUSTICE EMPLOYEE TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

San Francisco, CA – San Francisco Sheriff Paul Miyamoto confirmed that a second sworn staff member assigned to the Hall of Justice tested positive for COVID-19 today. It is not known where the employee may have contracted the virus.

“We are testing both staff and justice-involved people in our custody to identify and isolate individuals who are infected,” said Sheriff Miyamoto. “Given the spread of the virus and the prevalence of asymptomatic positive cases, there are bound to be positive results. We follow up immediately with contact tracing, alerting people who may have been exposed and could potentially expose others. This is how we prevent further spread.”

“The risk of transmission is mitigated with Sheriff’s Office policies that include physical distancing, masking at all times and frequent hand washing,” said Dr. Lisa Pratt, director of Jail Health Services, a section of the Department of Public Health.

This is the 10th Sheriff’s employee who has tested positive for COVID-19. Five staff tested positive in March 2020. Five more have tested positive in July including the previously mentioned individual and a Sheriff’s [bailiff](#) on July 16. Two of the five who tested positive in July were away from work for an extended period when they tested positive. An asymptomatic Sheriff’s employee assigned to the Laguna Honda campus also tested positive earlier this week.

The City of San Francisco provides [COVID-19 testing](#) at several sites for people who live or work in San Francisco. “Many infected people are asymptomatic,” said Sheriff Miyamoto. “Anyone who is concerned about exposure or experiencing COVID-19 [symptoms](#) should get tested.”

Led by elected Sheriff Paul Miyamoto, the San Francisco Sheriff’s Office administers the county jails, provides safety services for the Superior Court and other high-profile public buildings, and carries out civil court orders. The Sheriff’s Office employs more than 850 sworn staff and almost 200 non-sworn employees.