



Macomb County Sheriff's Office

Anthony M. Wickersham

"Determined to keep your trust. Working to keep you safe."

Sheriff's Advisory

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Sheriff's Jail Overcrowding Reaches Day 15

MT. CLEMENS, MI – June 17, 2015 – On June 2nd, Macomb County Sheriff Anthony Wickersham declared a County Jail, State of Emergency. Sheriff Wickersham notified County Officials, Judges and the local Police Chiefs that due to the current overcrowded conditions in the County Jail and, in order to comply with P.A. 325 of 1982, the prisoner population must be reduced.

State Law requires that, when the County Jail exceeds 100% of its "rated design capacity" for seven (7) consecutive days, the Sheriff must certify the fact to the Chief Circuit Court Judge. The rated design capacity of the Macomb County Jail is 1218 and the Jail population needs to be reduced to 1193 prisoners in order to be compliant with State Law.

It has been over 15 days since the Sheriff's State of Emergency Declaration, and the Jail count remained above the limit. As required by Public Act 325, the Sheriff's Office compiled a list of sentenced and unsentenced prisoners and provided the list to James M Biernat, Jr., Chief Judge of the 16th Judicial Circuit.

Earlier this afternoon, Judge Biernat sent a letter to the Sheriff approving the release of certain sentenced (and unsentenced) prisoners. The Judge ordered the release of prisoners, who HAVE NOT been charged (or convicted of) **"a violent or assaultive crime, a sex offense, breaking or entering, drug dealing, or any other major felony."**

For sentenced prisoners, whose names were on the list, the Judge ordered a maximum sentence reduction of 25%. For other **unsentenced** prisoners, Judge Biernat allowed for their release on personal recognizance bonds.

This report is a summary of activity and incidents reported to the Macomb County Sheriff's Office over the previous week. It is not inclusive of all incidents that have been reported. The Sheriff's Office reserves the right to withhold certain information if its release is not in the community's best interest, or if we feel it will compromise an investigation.

The Sheriff's Office will be processing the release of the prisoners through the course of this evening and are attempting to lower the Jail count and end the Jail Overcrowding Emergency.

This has been the fifteenth Emergency Jail Overcrowding State of Emergency declaration since 2003.

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