



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 Emergency Is Over

MT. CLEMENS, MI – June 19, 2015 – Sheriff Anthony Wickersham relates that the Jail Overcrowding Emergency that existed the last few weeks has been eased.

On June 2nd, Sheriff Wickersham declared a County Jail, State of Emergency. The Sheriff notified County Officials, Judges and the local Police Chiefs as required by P.A. 325 of 1982.

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 needed to be reduced to 1193 prisoners in order to be compliant with State Law.

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.

On June 17th, 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 processed the releases of 104 prisoners and, at 2 a.m. this morning (06-19-15), the Jail Count stood at 1170, therefore relieving the Jail Overcrowding Emergency.

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

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