**Press Release**

**Subject: COVID-19 in Yolo County Jail**

**Contact: Captain Matthew Davis (530) 406-5395**

**Date: September 8, 2021**

Since March of 2020, the Yolo County Sheriff’s Office has been proactive in implementing effective containment strategies to safeguard the inmates and staff within our jail facilities. Unfortunately, for the first time since the outset of the pandemic, COVID-19 has now spread to our inmate population.

Yesterday, an inmate became ill and tested positive for COVID-19. All inmates, with the exception of those who refused, were immediately tested and fourteen additional positive cases were found. These fifteen individuals have been placed in isolation and will be monitored and treated. Inmates were determined to have been exposed will be tested every three days for the next fourteen days.

Since August 29, 2021, staff members have been participating in weekly testing with no positive cases found as a result.

The Sheriff’s Office has prepared to address exposure to COVID-19 through infection control practices already in place to prevent the spread of any communicable diseases. Our primary focus during this time is to:

• Prevent the spread of the disease

• Promptly identify and isolate patients with possible COVID-19

• Care for patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19

• Initiate COVID-19 emergency procedures in the event of an escalating outbreak

• Monitor and manage potential staff exposures

• Communicate effectively within the facility and local public health authorities