

COVID-19 Update from Hampshire Sheriff Patrick J. Cahillane

December 13th, 2021

Seven More Positives

As of 4 pm on Monday, December 13th, there are eight cases of Covid-19 inside the Hampshire County Jail and House of Correction after seven additional pre-trial detainees tested positive on December 11th. The positive individuals, including the pre-trial detainee who tested positive on November 27th, were all symptomatic and unvaccinated, and all remain in quarantine at our facility.

This latest outbreak, representing approximately 6 percent of our resident population, comes at a time when the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is reporting that Massachusetts is experiencing “high” levels of community transmission, with Hampshire County reporting “substantial” community transmission, and as overall case numbers statewide have jumped to levels not seen since mid-January 2020 before vaccines became widely available.

Utilizing the rapid tests provided to my office last week by the state Department of Public Health, our medical team has detected no further cases among residents in the pre-trial housing unit and have begun testing staff, regardless of their vaccination status, who frequent that area of our facility.

It is important to reiterate that all positive cases thus far have occurred only in unvaccinated individuals.

I want the residents of Hampshire County to know that we are redoubling our efforts to contain this outbreak and to vaccinate as many people under our roof as possible, as quickly as possible.

Patrick J. Cahillane
Sheriff, Hampshire County