

COVID-19 Update from Hampshire Sheriff Patrick J. Cahillane

May 2nd, 2022

National Correctional Officers Week

As of 2:30 pm on Monday, May 2nd, there are no cases of Covid-19 inside the Hampshire County Jail and House of Correction.

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In honor of National Correctional Officers Week and Employee Appreciation and National Nurses Day on May 6th, I would like to thank the staff at the Hampshire Sheriff's Office (HSO) for their continued hard work and dedication to our mission especially during the stressful times we continue to experience.

I have been a corrections and public safety officer for more than 40 years, and I can tell you that the people who pursue this line of work are motivated by their desire to help improve the lives of others. Our mission is to help the men the courts place in our care return to their families and communities in better overall health than when they arrived. Healthier families and safer communities – this is what we work toward, all day and every day.

All of us, regardless of our career path, have people in our lives who inspired us and helped us form our sense of ethics and professionalism. For me, one such influential person is Dennis O'Brien, 93, of Northampton.

I first met Dennis in 1977 when I joined the National Guard and he helped me to understand that showing kindness and decency are signs of strength, not weakness, and that we really have but one duty: the duty to care for each other.

Dennis stopped by my office last week, and his visit reminded me that the qualities he has in abundance, qualities that he modeled for me those many years ago, are as timeless as they are essential.

I am so grateful to have met and had mentorship from a friend like Dennis. And I am and so grateful for the kindness, decency and professionalism of all staff at the HSO.

Please be kind and considerate to each other and enjoy National Correctional Officers Week!

Patrick J. Cahillane
Sheriff, Hampshire County

