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Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.
Essex County Executive

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 14, 2022

Contact: Alex Viqueira
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UPDATE

ESSEX COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY CIVILIAN TASK FORCE SCHEDULES MEETING ABOUT ITS MEDICAL REPORT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

July 23rd meeting has been changed to a remote format and can be viewed via Facebook livestream

Essex County, NJ – The Essex County Correctional Facility Civilian Task Force will be hosting a **virtual public meeting** on Saturday, July 23rd during which Dr. Chris Pernell and Professor Pam Valera will discuss the findings and recommendations of the recently publicized Medical Report.

The **virtual meeting** will be held as follows:

Date: Saturday, July 23, 2022
Time: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Livestream: www.facebook.com/EssexCountyCivilianTaskForce

While this meeting will be held remotely, individuals who do not have digital access may access the meeting at the Reentry Corporation building located at 936 Bergen Street, Newark, NJ 07103.

Written remarks about the Medical Report, as well as any previous topics discussed by the Task Force at previous meetings, may be submitted by email to JailTaskForce@admin.essexcountynj.org. Questions may also be submitted by email and may be addressed during the hearing. All submissions may be shared with the County and Essex County Correctional Facility administrators; please mark the statements as “confidential” if you wish them to remain private to the Task Force.

“We want to make sure that everyone housed in the Essex County Correctional Facility has access to visitation and other activities, and is treated fairly and justly. We appreciate members of the public sharing their experiences and the County and jail administrators for their cooperation,” Task Force Chairman and Former Governor Jim McGreevey said.

This is the ninth public meeting scheduled by the Civilian Task Force. The previous meetings focused on inmate access to visitation and activities, as well as the medical services and mental health services provided at the ECCF.

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Those wishing to contact the Civilian Task Force, submit a complaint or want more information about the public meeting should e-mail JailTaskForce@admin.essexcountynj.org or call 973 877-8037. For more information about the Task Force, visit www.essexcountynj.org/corrections/ and click on the link for the "Civilian Task Force."

The intent of the nine-member task force is to provide "transparency and accountability" of the ECCF staff, to protect the "lives, health, safety and rights of all people confined at the ECCF" and ensure the "conditions of their confinement are safe, sanitary, respectful and humane," according to language in the ordinance. It will act independently of County government and have the authority to inspect the ECCF, interview corrections officers, inmates, detainees, and review systematic issues and concerns.

Members of the Task Force were nominated by Essex County Executive Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr. and appointed by the Board of County Commissioners in June 2020 through an established advice and consent procedure that is used to fill vacancies on all county boards and commissions.

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