

BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

# DETECTION AND MITIGATION OF COVID-19 IN CONFINEMENT FACILITIES

NEW YORK STATE SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION – AN  
INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO DETECT AND MITIGATE  
COVID-19 IN NEW YORK STATE LOCAL JAILS

APRIL 12, 2023



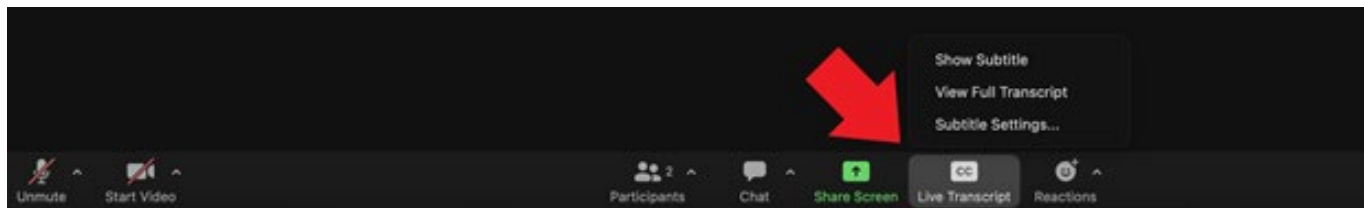
COVID-19 Detection and Mitigation in Confinement Facilities  
Training and Technical Assistance Center



**BJA**  
Bureau of Justice Assistance  
U.S. Department of Justice

# Important Information for Today's Webinar

- Today's webinar is being recorded. The **recording, transcript, and slides** will be posted to BJA's project page.
- **Live-captioning** — Available for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing.



- **Submit questions** in the chat at any time during the presentation.
- Please complete the **webinar evaluation**.

Note: This webinar highlights an Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases (ELC) recipient best practice but is not a BJA endorsement of a service.

# Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- New York State Sheriff's Association Presentation
- Questions and Answers
- Available Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) support

# Welcome

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# **New York State Sheriff's Association Presentation**



# NEW YORK STATE SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION

AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO DETECT  
AND MITIGATE COVID-19 IN CONFINEMENT  
FACILITIES

# Introduction of the NYS ELC\* Cooperative Agreement Team

- ▶ Tom Mitchell – NYSSA General Counsel
- ▶ Bob Cuttita – NYSSA Detection and Mitigation Manager
- ▶ Kathryn Cooke, Senior Program Coordinator, AIDS Institute, NYS Department of Health
- ▶ Stephanie Poskin, Cleaning Management Concepts (CMC), President
- ▶ Brant Insero, International Sanitary Supply Association (ISSA) Sr. Director of Education, Training, Certification and Standards

\* Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases (ELC)



# Background on the New York ELC Cooperative Agreement

- ▶ The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in partnership with the Department of Justice, is providing financial assistance to ELC recipients. The objectives and goals are focused on providing resources to confinement facilities for the detection and mitigation of COVID-19.
- ▶ The three-year cooperative agreement (2021 – 2024) was funded to New York State and New York City separately.
- ▶ The NYS Department of Health, AIDS Institute is administering the NYS portion of the COVID-19 ELC cooperative agreement.



# Background, cont.

- ▶ The AIDS Institute subcontracted with four entities due to their unique role providing NY's criminal justice services and technical assistance.
  - ▶ New York State Sheriff's Association (NYSSA)
  - ▶ New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (NYS DOCCS)
  - ▶ New York State Office of Children and Family Services (NYS OCFS)
  - ▶ University of Rochester, Center for Community Practice

## **New York State Sheriff's Association**

- ▶ Represents the 58 elected and appointed sheriffs in NYS.
- ▶ Unique state system due to diverse county size/geographic region.
  - ▶ Largest county jail system outside of NYC is Nassau County (almost 1,000 individuals)
  - ▶ Smallest county jail is Hamilton (5 beds).

# NYS Team Approach

- ▶ NYSSA worked with NYS Department of Health (DOH) for funding.
- ▶ NYSSA worked with ISSA, CMC, and Bi-2 to determine a uniformed approach for clean air, clean surfaces, separation of the population, and tracking and trending of COVID.
- ▶ Conduct a review of each facility for a Base Line.



# Meetings with Sheriffs & Jail Administrators

- ▶ NYSSA conducted several Webex meetings early in the process and realized there was a major difference between WANTS and NEEDS.
- ▶ NYSSA soon realized this is an opportunity to make a significant change on the system if it was done right.
- ▶ NYSSA reached out to ISSA.
- ▶ ISSA is the leading trade association for the cleaning industry worldwide, with more than 10,500 distributor, manufacturer, manufacturer representative, building service contractor, in-house service provider, residential cleaning, and associated service members.

# NYSSA Goals

- ▶ Complete a review of the county jail system to find out what was needed instead of what was wanted.
- ▶ Visit all 57 county jails to determine:
  - ▶ Current testing – needs.
  - ▶ What was the past situation – during the height of COVID-19.
  - ▶ What is the current situation – present operations.
  - ▶ Conduct a needs assessment.

# Assessment Tool

- ▶ NYSSA partnered with **Cleaning Management Concepts (CMC)**.
- ▶ CMC is an accomplished and highly respected company that has subject matter experts on planning, developing, and implementing operational strategies, business process and/or reengineering efforts in the cleaning industry.





# Facility Review

to provide

## Full Facility Solutions

to Detect, Mitigate, and Track COVID

- ▶ Visit all 57 county jails to determine:
  - ▶ Building use, access, and separation
  - ▶ Clean air
  - ▶ Cleaning surfaces
  - ▶ Cleaning management
  - ▶ Tracking and trending of COVID
    - ▶ Will produce reports throughout all of NYS County Jails on a single platform

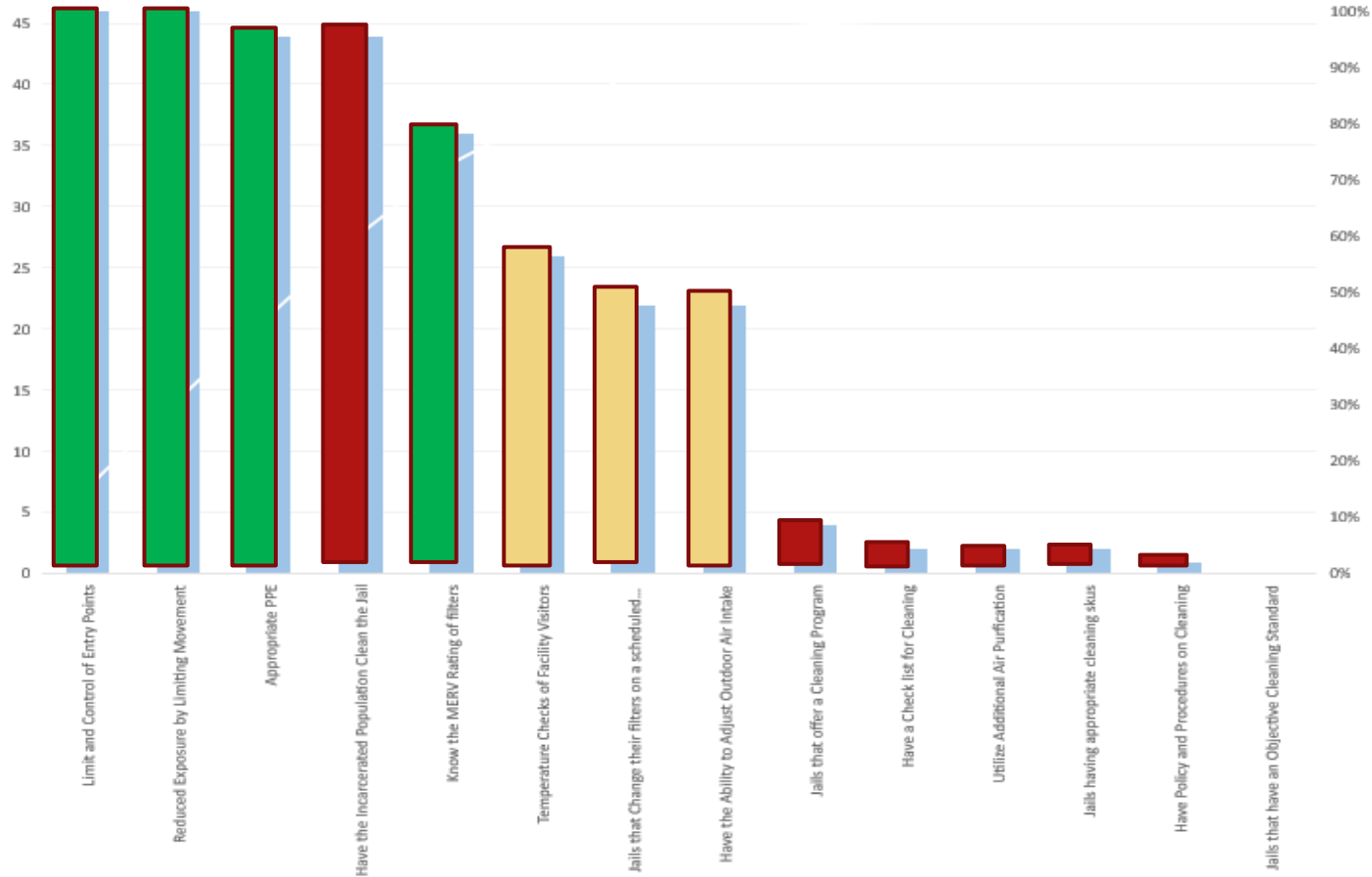
NYSSA created enormous purchase power for all facilities by bulk purchase.



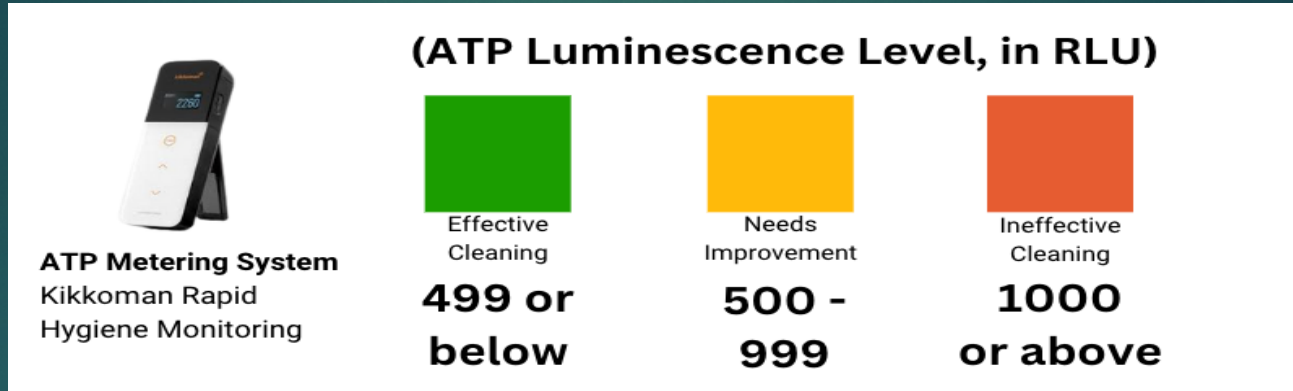
# Example of Findings

- ▶ There is a lack of cleaning systems in place.
  - ▶ No policies and procedures, tracking, times, or cleaning standards.
- ▶ Product inventory and standardization of appropriate cleaning and disinfecting products.
  - ▶ Too many products are not appropriate (bleach and Clorox, snake oil products). Distribution of products with no dilution control systems— inmates became chemists.
- ▶ No effective way to track and report COVID throughout the NYS county jail system.
  - ▶ State officials were and are making phone calls to all county jails for stats daily.

# Statistical Findings of CMC Assessments of the NYS County Jail System



# Objective Cleaning Tool Introduced



- 100% of the jails had more than one surface in the Red Zone.
- Only 8% of the jails had 1 or more surfaces in the Green Zone.
- Dirtiest surface was 385,893 <sup>ATP score</sup>, and the cleanest surface was 158 <sup>ATP score</sup>. Both were in staff break rooms.



# RETHINKING CLEAN



# Statewide Training Program

- ▶ Launching the first-ever statewide training and certification program for incarcerated individuals in New York's county jail system.
- ▶ Those incarcerated in the state's county jail system will now have the opportunity to be certified as experts on cleaning for health from ISSA's Cleaning Management Institute (CMI).
- ▶ Training is rolling out in a phased approach starting with "Train the Trainer" which will certify correctional employees as Certified Professional Trainers in the field of commercial cleaning.
- ▶ The program will not only ready incarcerated individuals for employment but will be a part of New York's county jails' transformation to cleaning for health.

# CMI Workforce Development Certification Program

- ▶ Utilizing commissary funds, you can start a cleaning program at your facility.
- ▶ Creates an opportunity for incarcerated Individuals to have a trade or employment upon release.
- ▶ The certificate received is nationally recognized by an accredited association.
- ▶ Allows the sheriff's office to create positive media coverage.





Cleaning  
Management  
Institute  
Workforce  
Development  
Program

**Providing post-incarceration career  
opportunities through globally recognized  
certifications**

# Med Verify Plus – BI2 Technologies

- ▶ Tracking and trending of COVID statewide.
- ▶ This is the first time all NYS sheriffs will have the opportunity to be on the same platform.
- ▶ Expandable to track other issues.



Department of Health

**Med-Verify Plus™ COVID Period Statistics**

Period: 2023-02-02 06:24 to 2023-02-03 06:24

Organization	P	T	T+	Q	I	H	V	D	(+)
Albany County, NY	424	0	0	26	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Legend	P	T	T+	Q	I	H	V	D	(+)
P	Total In-Custody Population								
T	Total Tests in Period								
T+	Total Tests Positive in Period								
Q	Total Quarantined in Period								
I	Total Isolated in Period								
H	Total Hospitalized in Period								
V	Total Vaccinated in Period								
D	Total Deaths in Period								
(+)	Total In-Custody (+) Residents								

**Med-Verify Plus™ COVID Statistics History**

Agency Totals as of 2023-02-03 06:24:00

Organization	P	T	T+	Q	I	H	V	D
Albany County, NY	539	280	13	144	0	0	79	0
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>0</b>

Legend	P	T	T+	Q	I	H	V	D
P	Total Population History							
T	Total Tests							
T+	Total Tests Positive							
Q	Total Quarantined							
I	Total Isolated							
H	Total Hospitalized							
V	Total Vaccinated							
D	Total Deaths							



# Next Steps

- CMC will be conducting a follow up on each facility.
  - Create a survey for all facilities.
  - Determine what worked and see what facility put in place the recommendations from the original report.
  - Conduct site visits on a percentage of jails that instituted all recommendations, some recommendations, and no recommendations.
- Create a final report.



Sheriff Smith



Questions?



## Contact Information

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# Questions?

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# Accessing TTA Resources

- **We are conducting a baseline needs assessment with ELC recipients.**
  - Examine progress made to date in implementing the work plan.
  - Discuss engagement efforts between recipients and confinement facilities.
  - Identify COVID-19 challenges and planned mitigation strategies.
  - Identify potential near-term and longer-term TTA needs.
- **Confinement facilities are encouraged to request TTA.**
  - Requests can be submitted via email: [bjacdmcf@cna.org](mailto:bjacdmcf@cna.org).
    - TTA Center website (in development).
  - Any confinement facility can request TTA support.
  - Requests will be reviewed by the lead TTA coordinator in coordination with BJA (e.g., scope, recommended service level).
  - TTA team will work with the requesting entity to develop an action plan.

## Examples of TTA Support Available

- Guidance on using available funding
- Peer-to-peer collaboration and learning
- Webinars highlighting best practices, lessons learned, and other aspects of program implementation
- Curriculum development and training delivery (train-the-trainer)
- Development of detection and mitigation strategies and resources, as well as access to updated guidance, tools, and information
- Access to a cadre of subject matter experts (SMEs) in correctional operations, correctional health care, curriculum development and training, corrections administration, and public health

# Participant Feedback

## Next Steps

- Complete the webinar evaluation.
- For questions or TTA Requests: [bjacdmcf@cna.org](mailto:bjacdmcf@cna.org).



# THANK YOU

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