



**COUNTY OF ESSEX**  
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**Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.**  
*Essex County Executive*

# NEWS

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 16, 2022

Contact: Alex Viqueira  
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**ESSEX COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY CIVILIAN TASK FORCE SCHEDULES  
IN-PERSON MEETING ABOUT GUEST PANELISTS' EXPERIENCES  
WITH MENTAL HEALTH & THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
*Public Meeting is Scheduled for Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>*

**Essex County, NJ** – The Essex County Correctional Facility Civilian Task Force will be hosting an in-person public meeting on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. During the meeting, four guest panelists will share their personal stories and experiences with mental health and the criminal justice system.

The meeting will be held as follows:

**Date:** Saturday, December 3, 2022  
**Time:** 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
**Location:** New Jersey Reentry Corporation Building  
936 Bergen Street  
Newark, 07103 [INDOORS]  
**Livestream:** [www.facebook.com/EssexCountyCivilianTaskForce](https://www.facebook.com/EssexCountyCivilianTaskForce)

Individuals who would like to offer comment or questions during this public hearing may register to do so from 11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., time permitting. Please be aware that this meeting and public comments will be limited to discussion regarding the four guest panelists' experiences with mental health & the criminal justice system. **You may register at <https://forms.gle/bjtdF9MAw5HkWWuB8>.**

Written remarks and questions also may 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.

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](mailto:JailTaskForce@admin.essexcountynj.org) or call 973 877-8037. For more information about the Task Force, visit [www.essexcountynj.org/corrections/](http://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

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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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