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Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.
Essex County Executive

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 2, 2022

Contact: Alex Viqueira
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**ESSEX COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY CIVILIAN TASK FORCE
SCHEDULES MEETING ABOUT INMATE ACCESS TO VISITATION AND ACTIVITIES
AT ESSEX COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY
*Public Meeting is Scheduled on Saturday, May 7th***

Essex County, NJ – The Essex County Correctional Facility Civilian Task Force will host a virtual public meeting on Saturday, May 7th to discuss limitations surrounding access to legal counsel and activities at the Essex County Correctional Facility.

The meeting will be held as follows:

Date: Saturday, May 7, 2022
Time: 10 a.m. to 12 Noon
Livestream: facebook.com/essexcountyciviliantaskforce

While this meeting will be held remotely, individuals who do not have access to Facebook or Zoom may access the meeting at the Newark New Jersey Reentry Corporation building located at 936 Bergen Street, Newark, 07103.

Written remarks about inmate access to counsel, general visitation, and facility activities, as well as any previous topics discussed by the Task Force at previous meetings, may be submitted by email. 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 eighth public meeting scheduled by the Civilian Task Force. The previous meetings focused on the medical services and mental health services provided at the ECCF and the experiences shared by former residents of their facility, their family members or representatives.

Those wishing to contact the Civilian Task Force, submit a complaint or want more information about the public meeting should e-mail to JailTaskForce@admin.essexcountynj.org or call 973 877-8037. For more information about

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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 Chosen Freeholders 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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