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Sheriff Penzone Announces Suspension of Work Furlough and Work Release Programs

Phoenix, AZ – Pursuant to the general authority provided to the Sheriff in ARS Section 11-441, and in consultation with the MCAO, Sheriff Paul Penzone announces the suspension of the Work Furlough and Work Release programs currently in place at Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) facilities as of 6 p.m on Friday, March 27, 2020. This suspension will continue through the pendency of the Declaration of Emergency *COVID-19* issued by the Governor's Office on March 11, 2020. The purpose of this suspension is to ensure the safety of MCSO personnel as well as the inmate population by preventing inmates from leaving and re-entering the jail system daily. MCSO is currently working with the Maricopa County Attorney's Office, Maricopa County Adult Probation, and the Superior, Justice and Municipal courts to execute any and all release orders of these inmates quickly once they are received. Inmates in this program that have not obtained a release order must report back to their assigned facility no later than 6 p.m. on March 27, 2020 and will remain in custody until MCSO receives a court order of release for that inmate.

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