

# Benton County Sheriff's Office

Scott Jackson, Sheriff

180 NW 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Corvallis, OR 97330  
541.766.6858 [www.co.benton.or.us/sheriff](http://www.co.benton.or.us/sheriff)

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 19, 2020

### **Benton County Sheriff's Office Service Disruptions**

*CORVALLIS, Ore.* – With the changing dynamics on the state and nationwide response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Benton County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) is taking proactive steps to prevent the further spread of the virus.

Patrol deputies will continue to actively patrol Benton County and respond to calls for service. Some calls for service will be handled by phone. Deputies have been instructed to take additional precautions when reasonable to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The BCSO records lobby, located at 180 NW 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Corvallis, is closed to the public as of March 18, 2020, for an undetermined amount of time. The public can call the Sheriff's Office at (541) 766-6858 for non-emergency matters.

Other changes to BCSO services include:

- Concealed handgun license appointments are suspended until at the earliest, April 20, 2020. You are encouraged to call (541) 766-6606 or email [katy.kuhnert@co.benton.or.us](mailto:katy.kuhnert@co.benton.or.us) if you need to reschedule an appointment.
- We are not offering fingerprint services for the public. Healthcare workers in need of fingerprints for licensing purposes may contact [katy.kuhnert@co.benton.or.us](mailto:katy.kuhnert@co.benton.or.us) or call (541) 766-6606 for assistance. A precautionary health screening will be conducted prior to entry to the building.
- Ride-along applications will not be accepted at this time.
- The Benton County Jail has suspended all social in-person visits. We will, however, allow 30-minute calls and offer off-site video visitation. For further jail operation questions please call (541) 766-6866.
- Civil process is restricted to restraining orders and emergency protection orders only. We will not serve other legal papers at this time.

"Our response may change on certain calls, as well as jail operations, but I want you to know you can still call us in your time of need," said Sheriff Scott Jackson. "This is an unprecedented situation we are all working through together."

These steps are being taken to keep deputies and the public safe. Some of these guidelines may be modified as more about COVID-19 is learned. If you have any questions, you are encouraged to call (541) 766-6858. For up-to-date services, you are encouraged to go to our website at [www.co.benton.or.us/sheriff](http://www.co.benton.or.us/sheriff).

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