



## FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**PATRICK "PAT" LABAT**  
FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF

185 CENTRAL AVENUE, S. W. 9<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303  
(404) 612-5100

[WWW.FCSOGA.ORG](http://WWW.FCSOGA.ORG)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 23, 2023**

### **Contact Information:**

Natalie L. Ammons, Director of Communications  
[FCSO.Communications@fultoncountyga.gov](mailto:FCSO.Communications@fultoncountyga.gov)

### **Fulton County Sheriff Patrick "Pat" Labat Deploying Emergency Measures After Storm Caused Power Outage at Rice Street Jail**

**ATLANTA, GA** – Sheriff Patrick "Pat" Labat says all available commanders and extra staff have been on duty at the Rice Street Jail after storms Friday night (7/21/23) caused a power outage at the facility. Power was restored on Friday at 8:23 p.m., however, air conditioning units were not functioning.

At this time, a portable chiller truck is being used to cool the building. An initial assessment by Fulton County's Department of Real Estate and Asset Management (DREAM) indicated the primary chillers would be repaired and operational on Sunday. After further assessment, the damage is more extensive and parts to make repairs will not be available until Monday morning.

Due to safety and security concerns the Fulton County Jail temporarily stopped accepting new detainees after losing power on Friday. Normal intake operations resumed on Saturday.

During the power and air conditioning outage, four inmate medical emergencies have been reported and responded to with appropriate treatment. Medical services have continued uninterrupted. We are using commanders from all divisions of the agency to conduct detainee health and safety checks and make sure any medical needs are addressed.

Sheriff Labat worked onsite overnight Friday and returned to the jail Saturday and Sunday, working directly with emergency response teams to keep critical operations up and running.

"I would like to thank the entire FCSO team who has responded to this crisis for their heroic efforts to deploy emergency measures and keep the jail operational," said Fulton County Sheriff Patrick "Pat" Labat. "We are operating under incredibly difficult circumstances right now which are creating uncomfortable conditions for the inmates and staff but our team has mounted an incredible response to keep everyone safe. Hot meals are being served and it's our hope that DREAM will be able to safely restore air conditioning soon. We will provide additional updates as the situation warrants."

**ABOUT THE FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE:** The mission of the Fulton County Sheriff's Office is Service; through laser-focused efforts to protect the citizens of Fulton County with coordinated law enforcement operations, special strategic teams, and community outreach methods. The Sheriff's Office is constitutionally responsible for the security of all courtrooms, executing arrest warrants, and serving civil papers. In addition, the Sheriff's Office is responsible for the administration and operation of the Fulton County Jail.

###