



PATRICK "PAT" LABAT
FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF

FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Hundreds of Weapons Seized in Shakedown of Fulton County Jail

Joint Operation Recovers Shanks and Contraband

Atlanta, GA – A joint operation at the Fulton County Jail resulted in the seizure of contraband including but not limited to more than 200 homemade knives, a cell phone, tobacco and smoking materials.

Fulton County Sheriff Patrick 'Pat' Labat would like to thank Governor Brian Kemp, Georgia Department of Corrections Commissioner Tyrone Oliver and all of our law enforcement partners for mobilizing more than 200 officers to conduct this security operation.

The agencies and units involved in the early-morning shakedown on March 15, 2023 include the Fulton County Sheriff's Office STRIKE Team, SWAT team, Criminal Investigation Division Gang Unit, Fulton County Sheriff Office Jail Security, Georgia Department of Corrections Tactical Team, IRT and K-9 team, Fayette County Sheriff's Office V.I.P.E.R., Henry County Sheriff's Office, Coweta County Sheriff's Office, and Atlanta Department of Corrections. During the operation, which took place across four Fulton County Sheriff's Office zones, officers patted down inmates to ensure no weapons were on their person and searched living quarters.

"We conduct shakedowns on a regular basis," says Fulton County Sheriff Patrick "Pat" Labat. "This is vital to the protection of our staff and detainees in our care. Inmates are literally crafting shanks from the crumbling walls of the dilapidated facility. We must remain vigilant in our efforts to confiscate dangerous weapons and contraband as we work to ensure the safety and security of all."

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FCJ Shakedown

Pieces of infrastructure of the Fulton County Jail were also discovered during this operation, including; light switch covers, hinges, pieces of plumbing, pieces of HVAC duct, broom stick, cinder blocks. These discoveries highlight the critical safety concerns and dangers Sheriff Labat has expressed repeatedly since taking office in 2021: The aged and deteriorating Fulton County Jail is impossible to maintain or repair and must be replaced with a new, upgraded, safer and more secure facility.

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.

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