



ONEIDA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Grady M. Hartman
Sheriff

Daniel L. Hess
Chief Deputy



NEWS RELEASE

Friday, July 31, 2020

The Oneida County Sheriff's Office will not be enforcing the Governor's order that mandates the wearing of masks starting August 1, 2020 nor will we be responding to complaints about mask violations. Aside from a belief that this order is in violation of the Constitution which all deputies of Oneida County have sworn an oath to uphold, the Governor's order outlines numerous reasons why a person may be exempt from wearing a mask. Several of these reasons have to do with medical and mental health conditions. It is not the place of law enforcement to question citizens about their medical or mental health thus we will not be enforcing the mask mandate.

Your family's safety is important to us and we will continue to do our part in protecting the community. It is the right of every citizen to decide what they need to do for their health, well being, and safety. If you wish to wear a mask, do so. If you have reasons why you cannot wear a mask, then do not wear a mask. Please do not contact the Sheriff's Office emergency phone lines about mask violations. We need to keep these lines available for emergency calls.

Questions and concerns should be directed to Captain Terri Hook at 715-361-5150.