



CHATHAM COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release

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Chatham County Police Department's Marine Patrol Applauds Citizens for Social Distancing on the Water and Islands Saturday

Chatham County, GA (April 4, 2020) – The Chatham County Police Department's Marine Patrol is applauding citizens for practicing safe social distancing on the water and islands Saturday.

Marine Patrol spent the day canvassing the waters of Chatham County by boat and helicopter. They report that they only spotted four groups who were violating the Governor's Emergency Order regarding social distancing on the water and beaches. Most of those involved people who had chairs, umbrellas or coolers while stopped on Little Tybee, Williamson Island, and Ossabaw Island. Marine Patrol officers stopped and spoke with those groups and informed them of the current orders regarding social distancing. No citations were written.

Marine Patrol encourages people to continue to enjoy the water and islands, while maintaining a safe social distance. The Governor's order allows for boating and for island access to exercise. Chairs, umbrellas and coolers are not allowed on beaches. People are not allowed to gather in a group of more than ten, and must maintain a social distance of six feet. These rules also apply while on board a vessel.

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