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## NARA Notice 2021-037: Closure of NARA Operations at Rocket Center, WV, Due to COVID-19

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Mon, Nov 30, 2020



To: All Employees.

**Attention supervisors:** If you have employees who do not have access to a computer, please ensure that those employees receive a copy of this notice. This includes employees on LWOP or paid leave.

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NARA has closed our operations at the Allegheny Ballistics Laboratory (ABL) at Rocket Center, WV, due to deteriorating local public health conditions. This closure is effective December 1 and will continue until further notice.

Over the past 14 days, Mineral County, WV, home of ABL/Rocket Center, realized nearly 2,400 new cases per 100,000 population and a positivity rate greater than 13 percent. These metrics exceed NARA's targets for safe reopening of our facilities. ABL/Rocket Center had progressed to Phase Two of our reopening plan before being closed. Unfortunately, the public health data suggests that local conditions will continue to get worse, so we chose to close the facility completely instead of regressing to Phase One. NARA operations at ABL/Rocket Center will remain closed until local public health conditions improve.

If you need support or assistance coping with the stress of the pandemic, please take advantage of the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). EAP services are free, confidential, and available to all NARA employees, supervisors, and family members. EAP counselors are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, by telephone 24/7 at 1-800-222-0364 (TTY 1-888-262-7848) or online at [www.FOH4YOU.com](http://www.FOH4YOU.com). EAP information can also be found at the [NARA@work](mailto:NARA@work) EAP page.

Today's announcement brings us to 14 facilities authorized to enter into Phase Two reopening, two facilities in Phase One, and 24 facilities closed. We will continue to monitor local public health metrics at all NARA facilities and will reopen or close additional facilities when local conditions require a change in NARA's operating status.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

MICAH M. CHEATHAM  
Chief of Management and Administration

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**If you have questions about this notice, contact:**

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