



## **GENERAL ORDER #20-02**

### **COVID-19 EXPOSURE MITIGATION AND PROCEDURES**

**Date: December 23, 2020 (revised)**

#### **I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person via respiratory droplets. Respiratory droplets are produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

Current evidence suggests that COVID-19 may remain viable for hours to days on different surfaces and symptoms may appear two to 14 days after exposure. Symptoms can include fever, cough, difficulty breathing, and shortness of breath.

Close contact increases risk of contracting COVID-19, including being within approximately 6 feet of a subject with COVID-19 for a prolonged period, especially in an enclosed space.

#### **II. POLICY**

To mitigate exposure in the workplace, members presenting any flu-like symptoms or acute respiratory illness are directed to stay home. Members who present any signs of flu-like symptoms or acute respiratory illness while at work will be immediately sent home.

Members are to ensure that their patrol vehicles have been disinfected on all areas that are commonly touched during their shift. During their shift, officers are to wash their hands periodically, check their supply of PPE, and maintain a clean and disinfected vehicle, along with their duty equipment.

Daily law enforcement functions place personnel in higher risk for exposure to COVID -19. Although personnel may be exposed to individuals who have tested positive to COVID-19, or suspected to have COVID-19, the risk of a high or medium risk “exposure” is very low when personnel are able to maintain appropriate distance, wear recommended PPE, and properly decontaminate following such calls.

Members exposed to a subject who has tested positive to COVID-19, or is suspected to have COVID-19, should undertake decontamination procedures as soon as possible. The member should immediately notify their shift supervisor of the exposure. A Worker’s Compensation packet will be completed to document the exposure and the Chief of Police promptly notified.



# *Winters Police Department*

*John P. Miller, Chief of Police*

*702 Main Street, Winters, CA. 95694*

It is critically important for members to self-monitor off-duty and during shifts, regardless of exposure. If symptoms present, the member should take measures to isolate themselves and report the presence of symptoms as soon as practicable to the on-duty supervisor. The supervisor shall promptly notify the Chief of Police.

### **III. PROCEDURE**

To minimize exposure to COVID-19, members are directed to follow the most recent state and county health orders and OSHA guidelines contained in the City of Winters' COVID-19 Prevention Program (CPP). This includes, but is not limited to:

- Wearing an authorized face covering to cover the member's mouth and nose.
- Practice social distancing.
- Wash hands often utilizing soap, ensuring to wash thoroughly and for the recommended time period of 20 seconds.
  - Hand sanitizers are not a replacement for hand washing and is intended to be used only until proper hand washing can be accomplished.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Perform routine cleaning of patrol vehicles and shared workplace equipment using disinfectant products.
- Avoid sharing personal items with co-workers (i.e. dishes, cups, utensils, towels).
- Attempt to avoid close contact with subjects presenting flu-like symptoms.
- Wear personal protective equipment (PPE) when needed and specifically when interacting with subjects experiencing flu-like symptoms. PPE includes:
  - Disposable Gloves
  - Eye protection
    - Eye protection (protective goggles or glasses) should be decontaminated between calls.
    - Prescription eyewear is not an acceptable form of eye protection.
  - N95 Mask
    - N95 masks may be re-used unless used during call for service with subject presenting flu-like symptoms.
- Whenever possible, members will have subjects who have tested positive to COVID-19, or are suspected to have COVID-19, or displaying flu-like symptoms, don a face covering to cover their nose and mouth.
- Subjects will be transported in a patrol vehicle only when deemed necessary and no other feasible alternative exists.
- If a subject is transported in a patrol vehicle:



# Winters Police Department

John P. Miller, Chief of Police

702 Main Street, Winters, CA. 95694

- Place a face covering on the subject to cover the subject's nose and mouth and ensure subject's ability to breath is not adversely impaired.
- Ensure vehicle is properly ventilated.
- Wear issued PPE to include N95 mask, eye protection, and disposable gloves.
- Direct transport the subject to Yolo County Jail, Yolo Juvenile Detention Facility, or closest designated 5150 W&I receiving hospital or other appropriate destination.
  - Subjects shall not be transported to the Winters Police Department unless other exigent circumstances exist.
- Use disinfectant supplies to clean the rear passenger seat and patrol vehicle equipment immediately after transport.
- Evaluate the need for a law enforcement response to medical aid calls and respond only if deemed necessary or if requested by Fire Department/EMS personnel.
- In accordance to YEMSA "COVID-19 Update #8," dated April 2, 2020:
  - Mouth-to-mouth or mask-to-mouth ventilation is not to be performed on patients.
  - Hands only CPR may be performed on patients.
    - AED may be utilized.
  - A surgical mask will be placed on the patient prior to initiating CPR.

## **Post-Exposure Decontamination Procedures**

Infectious secretions may be carried on clothing, shoes, or PPE. DO NOT transport these items into areas where other personnel may be exposed until decontamination procedures have been completed.

Members exposed to a subject who is suspected to have COVID-19, has tested positive to COVID-19, or are to follow these decontamination procedures:

- While wearing appropriate PPE:
  - Clean and disinfect duty belt, equipment (clipboards, radios, etc.), footwear, including the soles, and patrol vehicle prior to reuse.
  - Follow standard operating procedures for containing and laundering clothes, using appropriate fabric care recommendations.
  - Follow standard operating procedures for the containment and disposal of used PPE.
- Exercise social distancing.
- Complete a Worker's Compensation packet documenting the exposure.
- Follow current state and county health orders and OSHA guidelines contained in the City of Winters' COVID-19 Prevention Program (CPP).



# *Winters Police Department*

*John P. Miller, Chief of Police*

*702 Main Street, Winters, CA. 95694*

## **First Responder Exposure and Return to Work Guidelines**

Refer to most recent state and county health orders and OSHA guidelines contained in the City of Winters' COVID-19 Prevention Program (CPP).

John P. Miller, Chief of Police