



NEWS



News Headlines 03/31/2020

- Appropriate Use of 9-1-1 System
- 2 San Bernardino County sheriff deputies test positive for coronavirus

Appropriate Use of 9-1-1 System

Tracey Martinez, San Bernardino County Fire Protection District, San Bernardino City News Group

Posted: March 31, 2020, 9:15 am



As COVID-19 cases continue to rise in San Bernardino County, local hospitals and public health officials are anticipating an increase in emergency room visits from the public; as such, this may also cause a strain on the 9-1-1 system.

In anticipation of this potential surge, local public safety officials are urging the public to utilize the 9-1-1 system for actual emergencies only to ensure the first-responders are available for life-threatening emergencies.

To alleviate excess 9-1-1 calls, if a person is exhibiting flu-like symptoms or has another non-emergency medical situation, public health and public safety officials recommend that the public first contact their primary physician or their health care provider's nurse health line for assistance.

Most health care providers have 24-hour nurse advice or Call for Care numbers available to serve their members for several non-emergency medical situations such as colds, coughs, sore throats, flu-like symptoms, and questions about medicines. Inland Empire Health Care (IEHP Nurse Advice Line), Kaiser Permanente (Call for Care), Molina Healthcare, and Blue Cross or Blue Shield, are examples of health care plans in the region that have 24/7 nurse advice or Call for Care lines available to their members. The information for these services is listed on the back of the membership cards. The information can also be found on the providers' websites and mobile apps.

You may be asked additional questions by the 9-1-1 telecommunicator to help screen for potential COVID-19 indicators. You may also be asked to step outside to meet first responders if you are physically able to do so. These steps are necessary to minimize exposure to first responders and others in the event the symptoms are in fact COVID-19 related.

Your fire and law enforcement agencies remain committed to providing the utmost in customer service and public safety amid these unprecedented circumstances. Help us be there when you need us most. As always, if you or a loved-one are experiencing any life-threatening emergency, don't hesitate to call 9-1-1 to request an emergency response.

For the latest information and preparedness tips, please visit San Bernardino County Public Health website at <http://wp.sbcounty.gov/dph/coronavirus/>.

<http://sanbernardino.citynewsgroup.com/articles/appropriate-use-of-9-1-1-system>

2 San Bernardino County sheriff deputies test positive for coronavirus

Jesus Reyes, KESQ Channel 3 News

Posted: March 30, 2020, 4:36 pm

The San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department announced that two deputies assigned to corrections tested positive for coronavirus on Sunday.

The department confirmed that the deputies entered self-quarantine after they began to develop flu-like symptoms before receiving test results. The deputies have been off of work for a week.

The department is investigating how the deputies were infected.

"Although we do not know when and where the deputies were exposed to the virus, we continue to encourage all members to heed the warnings of health officials while on and off duty," reads a notice by the SB County Sheriff's Department.

This marks the third San Bernardino County sheriff deputy to tests positive for coronavirus.

Last Monday, the department announced a deputy assigned to patrol tested positive. The department is also investigating how this deputy got infected.

This weekend, the San Bernardino Fire Department announced that two firefighters tested positive as well. These are the first two positive cases of firefighter first responders within the county.

The two firefighters work for two different agencies within San Bernardino County - The **San Bernardino County Fire** Protection District and the Montclair Fire Department.

There is currently 111 cases and three deaths in San Bernardino County.

Meanwhile here in Riverside County, Sheriff Chad Bianco confirmed that three deputies have tested positive for coronavirus.

One of those deputies works at one of the jails in Riverside County. Additional deputies remain in self-quarantine.

Sheriff Bianco also confirmed an inmate tested positive. The inmate had very limited contact with other inmates. 11 other inmates who are symptomatic have also been quarantined.

Sheriff Bianco said the department has enhanced cleaning at the jail and the staff has an adequate amount of PPE.

There are currently 291 cases and 9 deaths in Riverside County.

<https://kesq.com/news/coronavirus/2020/03/30/2-san-bernardino-county-sheriff-deputies-test-positive-for-coronavirus/>