

# PPE GUIDANCE FOR FIRE AND POLICE RESPONDERS

- In all cases (if/when possible) maintain a distance of at least 6' from all persons.
- Ensure only trained personnel wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) have contact with individuals who have or may have COVID-19. Only absolutely essential personnel should enter a scene (no more than two with direct contact for CPR calls).
- Practice proper hand hygiene. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Avoid touching your face while working.

## (LEVEL 1) ROUTINE CALLS FOR SERVICE

No one has flu-symptoms.  
No one is quarantined by DOH or Doctor.  
No one is awaiting COVID-19 test results.

### Typical Incidents/Situations May Include:

- Traffic Accidents
- Fire Alarm Activations
- CO Detector Activations
- EMS Lift Assists
- Routine Law Enforcement complaints and interviews
- Routine Law Enforcement traffic stops or other public encounter

### PPE & Precautions Recommended:

- Maintain 6' distance from all persons
- Gloves (if entering a building/vehicle)

## (LEVEL 2) ELEVATED RISK OF POTENTIAL COVID-19

Healthcare Facilities.  
Situations where responders cannot maintain 6' distance from person(s).

### Typical Incidents/Situations May Include:

- Alarm activations and Law Enforcement complaints at healthcare facilities (including nursing homes).
- Any incident where responders are unable to maintain 6' distance from person(s) on scene. **If person(s) on scene are experiencing flu-like symptoms (fever, shortness of breath, cough), or if responder is providing patient care, use Level 3 PPE. →**

### PPE & Precautions Recommended:

- Maintain 6' distance from all persons
- Gloves
- Facemask (surgical/procedure mask)
- Eye protection (goggles, glasses or shield)

## (LEVEL 3) HIGH RISK OF SUSPECTED OR POSITIVE COVID-19

Direct contact with, patient care of, or prolonged close exposure to a PUI or confirmed COVID-19 person.

### Typical Incidents/Situations May Include:

- Any situation that requires close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 person, person under quarantine, or a person with flu-like symptoms.
- **ALL** cardiac arrests/CPR calls
- Entering any closed environment (building, ambulance, etc.) where aerosol generating procedures are being performed (CPR, suction, intubation, ventilation, nebulizer treatments, etc.)

### PPE & Precautions Recommended:

- Maintain 6' distance from all persons
- Gloves
- N95 respirator (or SCBA)
- Eye protection (goggles, glasses or shield)
- Gown (if available)

Note (1): In all instances responders should follow their agency-specific policies regarding use of personal protective equipment, including use of turnout gear, etc.

Note (2): Facial hair may inhibit the proper seal, and therefore the effectiveness, of an N95 respirator.