

# INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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TO:	All DES- Communications Staff <i>Department of Emergency Services</i>
FROM:	Christopher "Butch" Roberts, Assistant Chief <i>Department of Emergency Services</i>
SUBJECT:	Emerging Infectious Disease (EID) Screening of Law Enforcement Calls
DATE:	March 20, 2020

Considering the global pandemic known as COVID-19 (Corona Virus), **effective immediately**, we will be implementing a COVID-19 protocol when receiving 9-1-1 calls for police services. Currently, there is no tool within the Police Priority Dispatch System™ (PPDS®) to script these questions. We have submitted a Request for Change through IAED to add this tool to PPDS®. Until the decision is made to make this change, we will need to ask the following questions on **ALL 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> Party calls and 3<sup>rd</sup> party calls when the caller wants to be contacted.** The following questions should be asked immediately following address and phone number verification or if a situation presents a life safety concern, immediately following PDI's / PIA's.

1. Are you or anyone at the location sick? *(continue asking all questions/sub-questions regardless of answer provided)*
2. Have you or anyone on scene traveled to China, Iran, Italy, Japan, or South Korea in the last 14 days?
3. Have you or anyone on scene had close contact with an ill person with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 in the last 14 days?
4. If yes to any of the questions above, say "Now tell me if he/she has any of the following symptoms:"
  - a. Fever or Temperature greater than or equal to 100.4°F (or 38°C)
  - b. Chills
  - c. Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath (e.g. persistent sneezing, wheezing, congestion, etc.)
  - d. Persistent cough

Charles County 9-1-1 Specialists will be required to ask all questions and then clearly indicate in the notes whether the answers to these questions are positive or negative. If a positive response is given, utilize the PUI box on the call sheet.

The goal of this procedure is to provide advance notice to law enforcement responders of a potential PUI situation.

Cc: Tony Rose, Deputy Director, Emergency Service  
 Michelle Lilly, Director, Emergency Services  
 Capt. C. Bean, #310, Charles County Sheriff's Office  
 Lt. C. Gass, #439, Charles County Sheriff's Office