



INDIO POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

"Our Community... Our Commitment"

Date and Time of Release: **Tuesday, April 7, 2020 / 11:30 A.M.**

Subject: **Chief Mike Washburn Message on Public Health Orders**

The County of Riverside has issued new health orders and we each need to do our critical part during this public health emergency.

The Indio Police Department has been proactive in an effort to safeguard employees and residents during this public health emergency. Indio, like other police agencies across the country, have modified our non-emergency responses to help reduce the exposure potential to our community members and our staff.

Proactive Measures:

- **Station Lobby Closure** – Our department's lobby has been closed and will remain closed; there is staff on duty during regular business hours and if you have any questions about obtaining a report or need other information, please call (760) 391-4057.
- **Online Reporting** – This resource has been and will continue to be available to our community. We are encouraging everyone to file online reports whenever applicable, which can be done at: www.indio.org/reportacrime
- **Dispatch Screening** - We have implemented additional safety precautions, much of the work we do is up close and involves multiple officers. Because of this, you may notice dispatchers asking a series of screening questions to assess what PPE our officers may need when responding to a call. Additionally, officers will be wearing masks and other PPE as necessary. Response to emergency calls for service where there is immediate threat to public safety will continue.

What You Can Do To Help

- **Do NOT call 911** about people not wearing masks or violating social distancing – we need to keep our lines clear for imminent and in-progress emergencies. Instead, we ask you to report the violation online, please visit: www.indio.org/codeviolation or if you are unable to access online call (760) 391-4123.

- **Be a leader and set the example!**
 - Follow the guidelines as set forth by the county. Stay home, wash your hands, practice social distancing and keep you face covered if you have to leave home for an essential matter.
 - For more information from the City of Indio visit www.indio.org/coronavirus
 - For information about COVID-19 in Riverside County, visit <https://rivcoph.org/coronavirus>
 - From a safe distance, politely remind those not wearing face coverings of their obligation.
 - Because it is difficult to find masks, bandanas, and gaiters, if you have extra face coverings, offer them to others who do not have them.

Every public interaction our officers engage in can potentially expose them to COVID-19. As first responders, we are fully committed to the ongoing efforts to ensure public safety and health of our community members and staff.

Bottom line, WE ARE experiencing a pandemic and we are all in this together. Please do you part to help flatten this curve and keep our community thriving.
#IndioPolice #IPD #COVID19 #PSA #FactsNotFear

For more information contact: Indio Police PIO – (760) 541-4500