What law enforcement & first responder personnel need to know about Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)
COVID-19 BASICS

Spread
All types of coronaviruses spread through coughing, sneezing, or close personal contact

Symptoms
Fever, cough, and difficulty breathing. Symptoms start two to 14 days after exposure.

Reasons for Concern
Because it’s new, it’s not predictable, like the flu. There is currently no vaccine available.
How to mitigate/limit the impact of a disease when no vaccine or medicine exists:

**Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions**

- Personal Hygiene Practices
- Environmental Cleaning Practices
- Community Social Distancing Practices
Strategies to Prevent the Spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

**Individuals at higher risk of getting very sick from COVID-19 should**

- Stock up on supplies (food, water and medications)
- Take everyday precautions to keep space between them and others
- Avoid crowds as much as possible
- If they go out in public, keep away from others who are sick, limit close contact and wash hands often

**To protect yourself from exposure**

- If possible, maintain a distance of at least 6 feet.
- Practice proper hand hygiene.
- Do not touch your face with unwashed hands.
- Have trained emergency medical service/emergency medical technician (EMS/EMT) assess and transport anyone you think might have COVID-19 to a healthcare facility.
- Ensure only trained personnel wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) have contact with individuals who have or may have COVID-19.
Strategies to Prevent the Spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Recommended Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Continued

- Law enforcement who must make contact with individuals confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19 should follow CDC’s Interim Guidance for EMS.

- The minimum PPE recommended is:
  - A single pair of disposable examination gloves,
  - Disposable isolation gown or single-use/disposable coveralls,
  - Any NIOSH-approved particulate respirator (i.e., N95 or higher-level respirator), and
  - Eye protection (i.e., goggles or disposable face shield that fully covers the front and sides of the face).

- If unable to wear disposable gown or coveralls because it limits access to duty belt and gear, ensure duty belt and gear are disinfected after contact with individual.

If close contact occurred during apprehension

- Clean and disinfect duty belt and gear prior to reuse using a household cleaning spray or wipe, according to the product label.

- Follow standard operating procedures for the containment and disposal of used PPE.

- Follow standard operating procedures for containing and laundering clothes.

For law enforcement personnel performing daily routine activities, the immediate health risk is considered low. Law enforcement leadership and personnel should follow CDC’s Interim General Business Guidance, Search “Interim Guidance for Businesses” on CDC.gov.
Contact the City of Middletown Health Department (CMHD) 425.1818 or the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) 1.833.427.5634 with questions or concerns.

Visit coronavirus.ohio.gov or the CMHD website for continual updates.

CALL 1-833-4-ASK-ODH
7 DAYS A WEEK 9am-8pm
1-833-427-5634