



To Whom It May Concern,

We at the Pike County Department of Public Safety have been fielding several questions about Covid-19 virus. While we appreciate and accept concerns we wish to issue the following statement to help alleviate concerns, equipment shortages, and help reduce some stress and anxiety:

Our 911 dispatchers have been following EMD protocol since the inception of the virus on US shores. This includes, but does not limit to questions to help screen potential at-risk patients so that our responders are not going into situations with heightened hazards blindly. Of course, this process only works with honest answers from those calling 911. There has already been cases of persons calling being less truthful with responses fearing delay in service. We have also delivered N95 particulate masks to every response agency inside the county lines. If you are not aware of this, please contact your lead department officer to find out the SOG and SOP for the operation of these masks. We are also closely monitoring progression of the virus as well as testing centers near our area. We are aware that the lack of a hospital within the county lines does taint the statistical collection of information for our area. We are monitoring other areas in and out of our state to help determine decisions. As for the concern of DECON, there is no DECON situation with this virus. This virus is an ISOLATION response. As always, the best offense is a good defense for this situation. Keep vigilant, limit exposure of personnel, and be pro-active in hygienic activities. Make sure your cleaning agents adhere to the EPA standards placed by the CDC to clean routinely touched areas of homes, places of business, and general areas of gathering. We have placed several requests into PEMA for hand sanitizer, more PPE, and other resources so that our responders can be equipped during this time. Again, please plan accordingly, understand the risks, potential hazard areas of exposure, and keep healthy. Below is the link to the website for the CDC.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html>

The County has been updating their page as well with the link below:

<https://news.pikepa.org/post/2020/03/09/COVID-19-Update>

Thank you for your time and dedication

Sincerely,



Pike County Dept. of Public Safety