



## Lafayette Police Department Press Release



Lafayette Police Department  
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Lafayette, Indiana 47901

For Immediate Release  
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### COVID-19

The Lafayette Police Department has been closely monitoring the unfolding public health crisis. The COVID-19 has now reached pandemic levels and The President of the United States has declared a Public Health Emergency for the United States. Locally, the Tippecanoe County Health Department will continue to communicate the most up to date information regarding this health emergency and any local measures required to keep our community informed.

As law enforcement officers, our primary responsibility is to provide for the safety and security of our community. In our efforts to serve the community we must do all that we can to maintain the health of our officers. This means abiding by the recommended CDC guidelines. As your Chief of Police, I wanted to let you know that you might see us doing a few things a little differently while we all face this threat to our public health together. I am asking for your help in keeping our officers well so we can best serve those who need our assistance.

Most importantly, if you have an emergency you should still call 911. True emergencies remain our highest priority. If you need police service, please call our regular non-emergency line at 765-807-1200. Our communications professionals will be asking a few extra questions to determine how we can best serve you while keeping all our first responders informed.

Effective immediately our officers will make determinations on which calls require the physical presence of an officer and those that can be handled over the phone or by other means. While we prefer to meet face to face, during this health emergency we will take police reports by alternative means when we deem it appropriate.

If we come to your home, place of business, or wherever you need us, we may ask you to step outside unless it is necessary for us to enter the premises. After all, we encounter a lot of people throughout our work shifts and we don't want to unnecessarily expose you or ourselves when we come to help. While we are on scene, don't be offended if we don't shake hands. We will do our best to keep our personal spacing. This is for your safety and ours.

Don't be alarmed if you see our officers wearing protective masks and gloves. There will be times when we wear them as precautionary measures. The presence of masks and gloves should not be interpreted as the presence of COVID-19.

These are unprecedented times that will require unique efforts and collaboration. It is important for our community to know that we are taking this very seriously and we are going to continue to provide the best service we can. It will be up to all of us to do our part as individuals to help keep our First Responders, Hospital Workers, and everyone on the front lines of this battle as safe as we can.

Our motto at LPD is "You Can Count on Us," and we know that we can count on you too!

Patrick J. Flannelly

Chief of Police

Lafayette Police Department