



Risk Management Moment

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID – 19)

The World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) are working across the Department of Health and Human Services and across the U.S. government in the public health response to COVID-19. Much is unknown about how the virus that causes COVID-19 spreads. However, it is important to take precautions and prepare your public entity in the event that COVID-19 affects your community.

The following is a guideline from the CDC to help you manage your entity's employees and 1st responders:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidance-business-response.html>

The following is a guideline from OSHA that will also provide you with important information:

<https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/>

Recommendations

The following tips are recommended however, there are many more to consider and it is important that you educate yourselves and your employees in a timely manner. The above link will provide you with information directly from the CDC.

- It is important to review and adjust your entity's policies and procedures regarding changing protocols for the safety services of your entity when responding to specific calls out of concerns over COVID-19. Please take time to read the information contained in the following links:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/first-responders.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-law-enforcement.html>

- Coordinating with state and local officials is strongly encouraged so that timely and accurate information can guide appropriate responses if/when COVID -19 cases arise in your community.
- Identify possible work-related exposure and health risks to your employees including but not limited to 1st responders, correctional officers and inmates and those employees directly working with the public.

Please note that the information and response to the COVID – 19 is being updated often. Therefore, you should stay informed as the virus progresses. We encourage you to review information from the CDC, WHO, US government and local authorities as it becomes available.