PPE Requirements - Update

**Coronavirus in the Community – MEDX calls and unattended deaths**

This Special Order expands the types of incidents during which N95 masks and goggles are the required level of PPE. Given the demonstrated presence of SARS-CoV-2 (the coronavirus strain that causes COVID-19) in our community, we must maintain a high level of vigilance for those opportunities to reduce the exposure of our personnel to this virus. Our approach to the treatment of cardiac arrest creates an environment where there is an increased opportunity for the aerosolization of potentially infectious materials. Until further notice, EFD personnel are required to don N95 masks and goggles for all cardiac arrest responses, regardless of cause (including traumatic). This requirement applies to all members participating in the response who enter the patient’s residence or, if outside, who are in proximity to the patient.

Additionally, any unattended death verification response will require the same level of PPE. For these responses, company officers should limit crew member exposure as much as possible and should limit the amount of time spent in the decedent’s residence or in close proximity to an outdoor decedent.