



SPECIAL NOTICE 20-012

DATE: March 21, 2020

TO: All Personnel

FROM: Michael R. Charter – Division Chief of EMS

UPGRADED PPE REQUIREMENTS FOR EMS RESPONSES

Department Personnel,

With the increasing number of COVID19 patients in the region, trends are starting to emerge that require the SVFD to upgrade our PPE requirements for EMS incidents:

- Increasing number of patients meeting Pandemic dispatch screening requirements;
- Increasing number of patients not triggering Pandemic requirements, but are presenting with similar signs and symptoms

The required PPE for ***ALL*** EMS incidents will now consist of:

- Gloves
- Eye Protection
- 200LS respirator

For all Pandemic dispatches, crew members will also wear:

- EMS Gown

In order to limit potential exposure and preserve PPE stocks, ***every EMS incident*** will be approached using the patient contact process we are using for Pandemic incidents when possible:

- Attempt to get the patient outside
- One crew member makes contact with the patient to gather information

After patient contact, if the patient is exhibiting flu-like symptoms, respiratory symptoms, or any other symptoms consistent with COVID19 – give the patient a surgical mask to place on themselves (preferred) or place a surgical mask on the patient.

Michael R. Charter – Division Chief of EMS