



Humboldt Bay Fire News Release

533 C St.
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 441-4000

March 13th 2020
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject : HBF Response to COVID-19

Contact : Amy Conlin, Community Risk Reduction Specialist, 707-441-4000

Humboldt Bay Fire, in line with County, State, and Federal guidelines and recommendations, are preparing for the possibility of a COVID-19 outbreak and are taking the following steps in an abundance of caution to protect our personnel, patients, and community.

What Is NOT Affected:

- 1) **Staffing** – Humboldt Bay Fire remains fully staffed and ready to respond to calls for service. We have internal protocol in place to address staffing and contingency plans should any HBF firefighters be exposed to the virus.
- 2) **Service Delivery** – All essential services including responding to calls for service remain in place.

What IS Affected:

- 1) **Office Access** – In an effort to limit exposure to our team and to the public, we are encouraging members of the public to call 707-441-4000 to address business with the fire department before coming to our headquarters office at 533 C Street in Eureka, CA; particularly if you are showing any signs or symptoms of illness.
- 2) **Non-Essential Services** – to support guidelines regarding social distancing and gathering, we are cancelling non-essential gatherings such as CPR and First Aid classes, to be rescheduled. If you are currently signed up for a class through HBF, please expect a call from our office regarding your attendance. Questions about a service you are expecting? Call 707-441-4000.
- 3) **Crew's Appearance / Increased Personal Protective Equipment** – following first responder PPE guidelines, you may notice an increase level of equipment worn by our crews on medical aid calls. Crews may now be wearing a gown, eye protection, and mask in addition to their everyday gear. Attached is a photo of how our crew may look if you see them on a call. This is a recommendation from the CDC and CDHC to protect our personnel and patients, and does not verify any confirmed presence of the virus.

Questions or Concerns about the COVID-19? Contact the County of Humboldt's Joint Information Center (JIC) at **707-441-5000** or email **covidinfo@co.humboldt.ca.us**

Humboldt Bay Fire, the City of Eureka, and the County of Humboldt will continue to evaluate the threat of COVID-19 to our community and provide updates as warranted. We remain committed to the safety of our community.

Additionally, Humboldt Bay Fire recommends signing up for Humboldt Health Alerts via humboldt.gov.org to receive updated information as it becomes available.

#####