

SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT ORDER

DATE/TIME: APRIL 6, 2020

NUMBER: OR 20-13

SUBJECT: FACIAL COVERINGS FOR ON-DUTY PERSONNEL

COST CENTER: 1914000001

SCOPE: ALL MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT PROCEDURE AFFECTED: NONE

Recent updates to county, state, and national guidance on using face coverings necessitates a change for San Diego Police Department personnel. The Center for Disease Control (CDC), California Department of Public Health (CDPH), County of San Diego Health and Human Services, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police recommend using a face covering at all times while out in public.

Accordingly, I am requiring all Police Department personnel wear a face covering at all times while on-duty, both indoors and outside. Face coverings do not need to be worn while in a closed room without other people present. Coverings to be worn for non-emergency response activities may be of a department issued cloth type or non-medical grade masks.

The Department has requested an initial order of 1200 cloth masks. Additional cloth masks are on order. Until such time as the Department can provide a cloth mask to all members, surgical masks and/or non-medical grade masks will be distributed to all personnel for use in accordance with this directive. The expectation is that the cloth mask be the primary face covering. The surgical or non-medical mask may also be used while the department issued cloth mask is being laundered. If the surgical or non-medical mask must be used, it is the expectation that these masks will last each employee for the duration of their assigned work shift, barring any extenuating circumstances. Personal protection equipment, including all mask types, are in critically short supply. N95 or higher-level respirators should not be worn for routine activities. Operational Support will be providing further details on cloth face covering as well as surgical and non-medical mask use and distribution.

The wearing of face coverings while on-duty not only protects our employees by minimizing risks, but it also sets an example for the public who should be wearing face coverings for their own safety and ours. In addition to this on-duty requirement, I

strongly encourage personnel to wear face covering masks during days off while in contact with the public in order to limit exposure or possible community-based spread of the Coronavirus.

It is important to practice strict hand washing before and after touching and adjusting face coverings and masks. Face coverings and masks are not a replacement for other evidence-based preventive measures such as physical distancing, frequent hand washing practices, and remaining at home when sick or not performing essential activities.

Thank you for your continued dedication to our community and each other.

Please read at squad conferences and give a copy to all personnel.