

## Florida Fire Chiefs' Association 221 Pinewood Drive • Tallahassee, FL 32303 • 850.900.5180 • <u>www.ffca.org</u>

FFCA Fire Service Liaison Officer's Information Dissemination for March 27, 2020

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- FFCA and FPF have Liaisons working at the SEOC's ESF4/9
- Remember all emergencies are local
- PPE is scarce globally
- Prepare as if there may be no PPE available
  - Prepare to find alternative suppliers
  - o Need to evaluate development and issuance of DYI masks
  - Prepare to use alternative cleaning methods for DECON of used PPE and reuse.
  - Use CDCs guidelines for first responder patient contact.
  - Limit crew exposure on responses
- Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) has very limited resources
  - Small amount of supplies from the SNS are anticipated to arrive.
  - Supplies from SNS are expected in 2-3 days from time of shipment
- Mission orders are being partially filled as supplies are received
- State working on solutions with small counties losing their first responders to National Guard Medical activation call up. Mission #08194 created to address this issue.
- Continued need for evaluation of community response of preventive measures and messaging
- Continued need for more messaging, exploring the option of utilization mass text messaging for dissemination of public information related to COVID-19.
- SEOC working to define the difference between a "Stay to Home" vs "Safer at "Home" orders
- State looking at epidemiology calculators to data mine trends, age groups, hotspots, etc.
- State is ensuing that compliance and monitoring of compliance specific to nursing homes and ALFs is occurring.
- Messaging of mask donations from industry is not producing results
  - Consider polling local resources, business, schools/colleges/Universities for PPE availability during closures
- Current FL COVID-19 hospitalizations: 191 hospitalized; 101 in ICU; 43 on ventilators
- FL has tested 31,000 persons as of this morning

State Fire Marshal's Office

• Pearson Vue has temporarily closed offices nationwide. Bureau of Standards and Training working to determine a method for testing for those who are eligible.

## Important takeaways for this document

Cases will continue to increase

- > Maintain a sense of urgency on all aspects of this crisis
- > Global demand for PPE far exceeds global capabilities to produce
- > Not enough PPE to distribute for current mission requests in Florida. Be creative!
- > Find alternative means to locate, produce, acquire PPE at the local level