



Captain Dennis Geary
Commander

Newton Police Department
Special Operations and Training Bureau
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Lieutenant Sean Healy
Sergeant Daniel Valente

COVID-19 and Personal Protective Equipment

With the recent pandemic surrounding COVID-19, the Newton Police Department has modified the equipment placed into Newton Police vehicles as well as issued to individual officers. The Coronavirus Disease-19 (COVID 19) is an [infectious disease](#) caused by the [severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2](#). The infection is spread from one person to others via [respiratory droplets](#), often produced during coughing and sneezing, and generally capable of spreading person to person within six feet. Contamination can also occur from surfaces and can remain infectious for an extended period of time on certain materials. Officers are reminded that they should maintain social distancing from others (6 feet) whenever possible and to continue washing their hands with soap and water.

In order to fight the chance of infection and ensure officers safety, the Special Operations Bureau has issued every officer two N95 personal protection masks. The N95 is a type of respirator which removes particles from the air that are breathed through it. These respirators filter out at least 95% of very small (0.3 micron) particles. N95 are capable of filtering out all types of particles, including bacteria and viruses. Officers should only utilize these masks when they are in close proximity with someone, where the likelihood of contamination exists. If possible, officers should continue to maintain social distancing without the need to utilize the N95, however should ensure that they have their N95 masks on their person should the need arise to utilize it.

In addition to the N95 masks issued to each officer, the Special Operations Bureau has also stocked cruisers with the following PPE (Personal Protective Equipment), in their medical kits:

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| Frontline cruisers 491-508: | Five additional N95 Respirator Masks Ten “surgical” style masks Nitrile gloves |
| All other vehicles: | Two additional N95 Respirator Masks Ten “surgical” style masks Nitrile gloves |
| Officer in Charge office: (After hour’s emergency need) | Twenty-Five N95 Respirator Masks Ten “surgical” style masks |

Surgical style masks are to be used to place on individuals being transported (i.e., arrest, medical transport etc.). If on an arrestee, officers are reminded to be as tactically sound as possible while

advising the individual that you are placing the surgical mask on them for your protection as well as theirs. When placing on the handcuffed individual, ensure the subject is controlled by one officer and a second officer place the mask on from behind the individual to avoid face to face contact.

Officers are reminded that during their motor vehicle inventory, they should be ensuring that the equipment is in the cruiser and missing items should be noted. Officers who utilize the extra masks in the cruiser are to notify the Special Operations Bureau when they use a mask so a replacement can be made and noted.

Any issues that may arise or any N95 mask usage notifications should be made to Sergeant Valente

Officers using PPE equipment and needing replacement shall fill out the replacement form in the OIC's office, online (everyone drive/forms/ppp equipment usage and replacement) or through the range.

Sample PPE equipment replacement form:



*Newton Police Department
Special Operations and Training*



PPE Equipment Usage and Replacement Form

Equipment used

PPE Equipment

- N95 mask
- Nitrile gloves
- Procedural (surgical type) tie masks
- Other

Report # or Address

Date of usage

Officer

Replacement Issued

- Yes
- No

Issued by:

Date issued