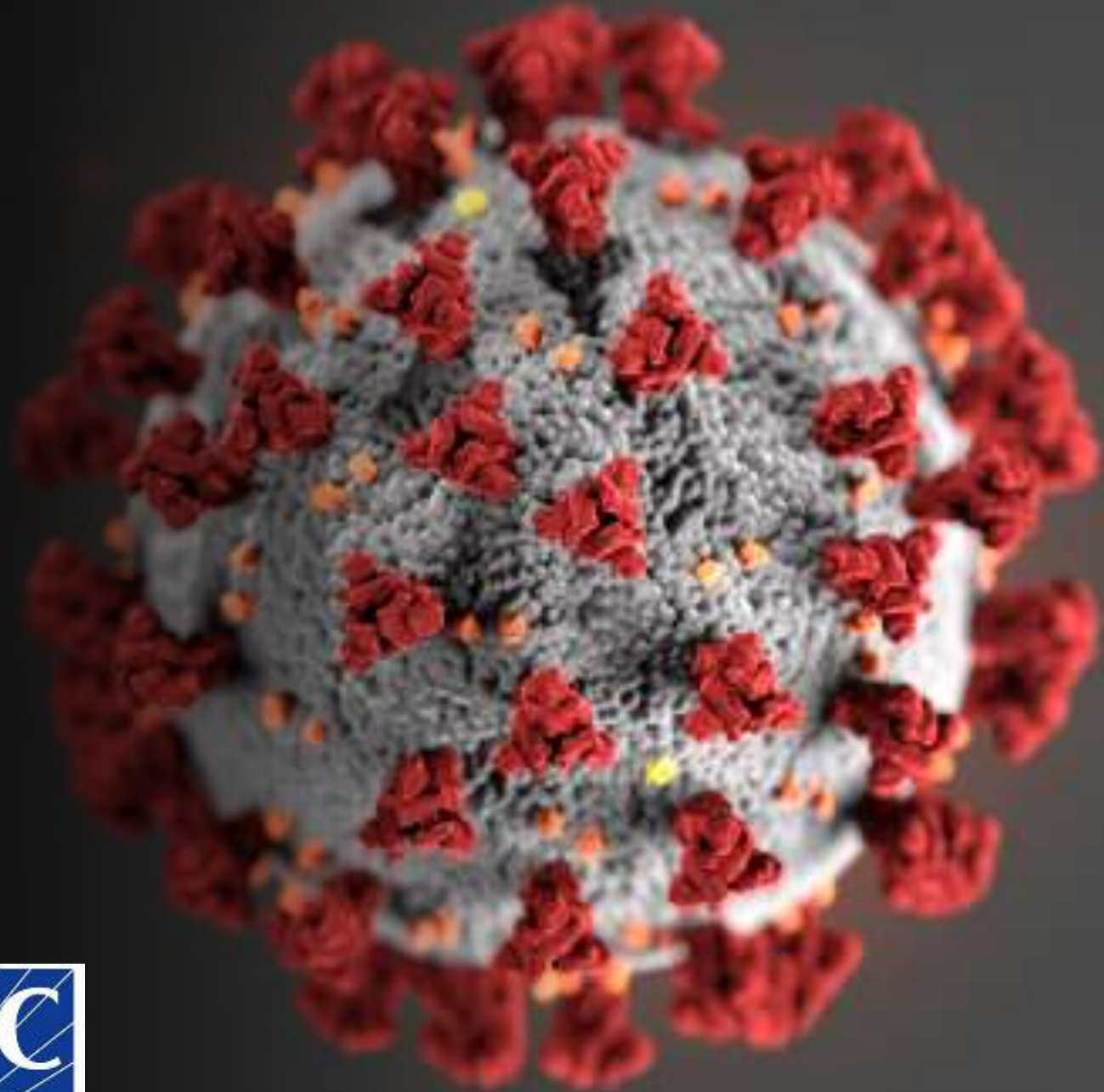




# What Law Enforcement Personnel Need to Know about Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

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**Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)** is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The outbreak first started in China, but cases have been identified in a growing number of other areas, including the United States.

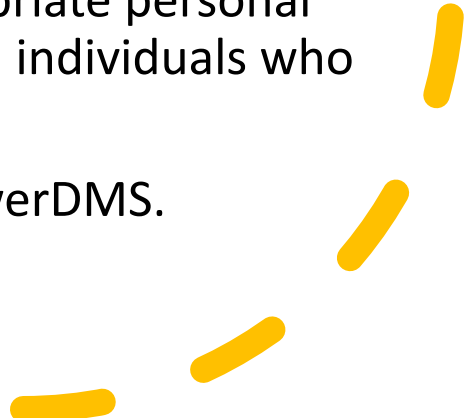


March 6, 2020

Patients with  
COVID-19  
have had mild  
to severe  
respiratory  
illness.

- Data suggests that symptoms may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 days after exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19.
- Symptoms can include fever, cough, difficulty breathing, and shortness of breath.
- The virus causing COVID-19 is called SARS-CoV-2. It is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person via respiratory droplets among close contacts. Respiratory droplets are produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes and can land in the mouths or noses, or possibly be inhaled into the lungs, of people who are nearby. Close contact may include:
  - Being within approximately 6 feet of an individual with COVID-19 for a prolonged period of time.
  - Having direct contact with body fluids (such as blood, phlegm, and respiratory droplets) from an individual with COVID-19.

# To protect yourself from exposure

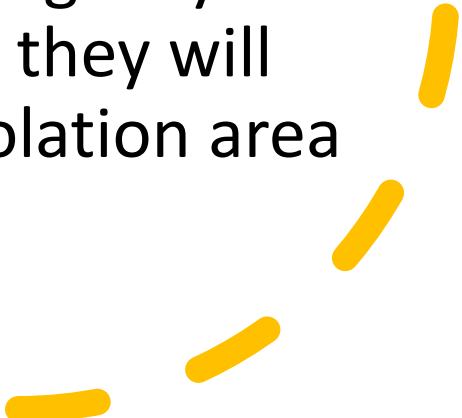
- If possible, maintain a distance of at least 6 feet.
  - Practice proper hand hygiene. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available and illicit drugs are NOT suspected to be present, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
  - COVID-19 is known to live outside a host for up to 9 days.
  - Sanitize your patrol vehicle before each shift.
  - Do not touch your face with unwashed hands.
  - Have a trained Emergency Medical Service/ Emergency Medical Technician (EMS/EMT) assess and transport anyone you think might have COVID-19 to a healthcare facility.
  - Ensure only trained personnel wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) have contact with individuals who have or may have COVID-19.
  - Review LPD's plan for exposure control in PowerDMS.
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# Recommended Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Law enforcement who must make contact with individuals confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19 should follow [CDC's Interim Guidance for EMS](#). Different styles of PPE may be necessary to perform operational duties. These alternative styles (i.e. coveralls) must provide protection that is at least as great as that provided by the minimum amount of PPE recommended.
- The minimum PPE recommended is:
  - A single pair of disposable examination gloves,
  - Disposable isolation gown or single-use/disposable coveralls\*,
  - Any NIOSH-approved particulate respirator (i.e., N-95 or higher-level respirator), and
  - Eye protection (i.e., goggles or disposable face shield that fully covers the front and sides of the face)
- \*If unable to wear a disposable gown or coveralls because it limits access to duty belt and gear, ensure duty belt and gear are disinfected after contact with individual.

A large orange circle on the left side of the slide, partially cut off by the edge.

## If close contact occurred during apprehension

- Clean and disinfect duty belt and gear prior to reuse using a household cleaning spray or wipe, according to the product label.
  - Follow standard operating procedures for the containment and disposal of used PPE.
  - Follow standard operating procedures for containing and laundering clothes. Avoid shaking the clothes.
  - If you believe that you have contracted COVID-19, DO NOT go to the Emergency Room directly. Contact them and they will meet you and direct you to an isolation area to be evaluated.
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- A yellow dashed line in the bottom right corner, consisting of several short, curved segments.

- For law enforcement personnel performing daily routine activities, the immediate health risk is considered low. Law enforcement leadership and personnel should follow [CDC's Interim General Business Guidance](#).