



# IACLEA COVID-19 RAPID RESPONSE BRIEFING CALL

March 27, 2020

## PANELISTS

- Dr. Danielle Walker— Professor of Public Health and Health Sciences, Biola University
- Paul Dean—Assistant Vice President of Public Safety and Chief of Police, University of New Hampshire Police Department
- Terri Brown--Chief of Police, Florida State University Police Department
- Bradley Seifers—Major, Indiana University Police Department

## OFFICER SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- Because most people with COVID-19 don't have symptoms, assume everyone, including yourself, has the virus and practice universal precautions.
- Officers with underlying conditions—diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease, COPD, cancer—should not have contact with the public.
- COVID-19 is not airborne<sup>1</sup> (please see the footnote below for more information), but is transmitted through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes.
- Protect your nose and mouth by wearing a mask and glasses or goggles for your eyes.
- Wear fresh uniforms daily.

<sup>1</sup> According to the CDC "COVID-19 is a new disease and we are still learning about how it spreads and the severity of illness it causes." Please see the following webpage to learn more about how COVID-19 can be spread. [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-covid-spreads.html?CDC\\_AA\\_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fprepare%2Ftransmission.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-covid-spreads.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fprepare%2Ftransmission.html)



- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds. Or, use a gel-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Ensure that it remains wet on your hands for 15 seconds—don't dry it off.
- Because tests are in short supply, test only those with serious symptoms.
- Use sanitizing wipes on officer equipment.

## **PPE SUPPLIES**

- Those on the call reported no shortages of PPE.
- Many campuses, especially those with research capabilities, have PPE supplies. In fact, local governments may ask schools for surplus equipment. Donate, but don't deplete your stores.
- Local communities have been donating PPE to public safety agencies.
- If your agency needs PPE, check with local and state emergency operations centers.

## **CAMPUS FACILITIES**

- Some campuses have no students living on-campus. But others still have a small number—many of whom are international students—who are unable to return to their homes or home countries.
- Some schools are leaving student belongings in dorms, others are moving those belongings to storage to free-up rooms for other purposes.
- The University of New Hampshire is playing a significant role in the statewide response preparations:
  - Providing PPE to state and local governments
  - Preparing campus facilities for medical surge—114 bed isolation hospital for first responders and housing for National Guard
- Campuses are resisting inquiries to provide shelter for homeless populations since some students remain in dorms, and homeless populations may need to be moved should the campus assist with medical surging.



## **SUPPORT OFFICER WELLNESS**

- Continue to guide officers and ensure they have the resources they need. Better to over-communicate.
- Make mental health professionals available to hear officers' concerns about their jobs and stress on their families.
- Establish tele-medicine connections for officers.

## **OTHER KEY TAKE-AWAYS**

- This is a marathon, not a sprint.
- If you have questions or need guidance, ask IACLEA colleagues or staff. You can also reach out to panelists:
  - Chief Paul Dean— [paul.dean@unh.edu](mailto:paul.dean@unh.edu)
  - Major Bradley Seifers— [brdsfrs@iu.edu](mailto:brdsfrs@iu.edu)

**Join the weekly COVID-19 Rapid Response Briefing Calls every Thursday at 1:00 pm EST. The schedule is posted here:**  
<https://www.iaclea.org/calendar>

**Can't join in person? Listen to the archived calls, which can be found in the COVID-19 Resource Library in [IACLEA CONNECTIONS](#).**