**KANSAS CITY, KAN.** – In response to the increasing concerns of COVID-19 across the nation and here in the metro area, the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department is taking necessary precautions in coordination with the Wyandotte County Health Department and the Unified Government as it relates to COVID-19 and public outreach.

The public should rest assured that officers are out in the community interacting with the residents of Wyandotte County 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Coronavirus will not change that. All officers have implemented a regimen of frequent hand washing, limiting handshaking, regularly using hand sanitizer, cleaning and disinfecting vehicles and duty equipment after calls. Additionally, the KCKPD will make some modifications to how they serve and protect - simple changes that represent a sound, common sense approach to protecting both our staff and the community.

Those modifications are as follows:

- **Anyone involved in a non-injury accident where the vehicles are drivable, is asked to make a report over the phone by calling 913-596-3000. Residents should be familiar with this process because it is the same one used for inclement weather.**
- **Personnel at stations and headquarters, who deal with the public, will conduct business behind glass partitions to decrease the chances of social spread.**
- **Our communications center where our skilled, emergency dispatchers are located will be closed to public visitors until further notice. Dispatchers are the true first responders and protecting their health is of utmost importance to our department.**
- **Officers responding to calls for service will gather information outside residences when at all possible and will maintain a larger social distance of at least six feet.**
- **Only trained personnel wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) will have contact with individuals who have tested positive or are showing symptoms of COVID-19.**
- **To ensure that all our residents - in particular the elderly and those without internet access - are informed about the symptoms and presentation of COVID-19, officers will be equipped with leave-behind cards in both Spanish and English.**

This is a rapidly changing situation which means that we expect that in the days and weeks to come, there may be additional changes. The Kansas City, Kansas Police Department is committed to remaining vigilant in all our efforts to protect and serve our community. Additional information and updates can be found by following us on Facebook (@KCKPolice) and Twitter (@KCKPDCChief) or kckpd.org.

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