

Georgetown County, South Carolina

NEWS RELEASE - COVID-19 #5

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Georgetown County Fire/EMS announces altered operations

Georgetown County Fire/EMS is taking necessary steps to try to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus/COVID-19. This is in the best interest of both our residents and first responders, said Chief Mack Reed.

Georgetown County Fire/EMS will always be there to protect the residents of Georgetown County, Reed assures. However, as the spread of Coronavirus continues, the department is modifying its operations.

"Absolutely, we will still respond to calls," Reed said. "Our primary goal will always be to keep the public safe. But unfortunately, we will temporarily be unable to allow the public into our stations to limit the potential spread of illness. Staff are being diligent in their preventative measures. All of our station personnel have been provided with PPEs, (personal protective equipment), and throughout the day they will be wiping and deconning vehicles when necessary, wiping down door knobs, wiping down countertops, wiping down those general areas that are frequently touched."

Additionally, 911 dispatchers are asking callers specific questions before first responders are sent to their location, such as if the caller is feeling ill or if they've traveled recently, or been in contact with someone who has traveled recently out of the country or state. The Department will be available to assist any resident in this emergency, but these extra precautions are necessary to help ensure first responders stay healthy and well enough to continue serving our community through this crisis. These changes are in place until further notice.

Any member of the public seeking any type of department report should call (843) 545-3271 for directions.

Effective immediately, the following services will be put on hold until further notice:

Company Inspections

- Smoke detector installations
- Child safety seat installations
- Volunteer monthly group training and meetings (continue to complete online training)
- All department-sponsored public events
- CPR classes

Career personnel will continue their training only at their station and online.

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