

COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) TEMPORARY POLICY
FOR
FIRST RESPONDERS EXEMPT FROM PAYROLL PROCEDURES FOR EMERGENCY EVENTS
ADOPTED MARCH 31, 2020

Possible exposure to COVID-19 patient

- Admin leave with pay until source patient or employee is tested
 - If patient is positive, employee is quarantined for up to 14 days on admin leave w/pay
 - If employee develops symptoms, employee is tested
 - If employee is positive, they are placed on workers comp
 - If employee is negative, they return to work following established return to work procedures
 - If patient is negative, employee returns to work

Each full time First Responder may be provided with up to 120 hours of COVID-19 sick leave for use when the employee is directly affected as long as employee follows testing procedures administered by the Department.

Return to work procedures for confirmed COVID-19, or who have suspected COVID-19

1. Test-based strategy.

Exclude from work until:

- Resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications
And,
- Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)
And,
- Negative results of an FDA Emergency Use Authorized molecular assay for COVID-19 from at least two consecutive nasopharyngeal swab specimens collected ≥ 24 hours apart (total of two negative specimens)

2. Non-test-based strategy.

Exclude from work until:

- At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery; defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)
And,
- At least 7 days have passed since the symptoms first appeared

Approved by Chairman Brooks April 8, 2020

4/8/20



*To be presented to Board of County Commission
for ratification on April 21, 2020*