



## COVID-19

### Employee Guide to Facial Coverings

**The use of facial coverings is mandated as of April 15, 2020, at 0001 hours.**

Nothing in this notice shall be construed to preclude the use of disposable gloves, masks and goggles when appropriate. Personnel should choose the correct item for use as dictated by the scenario they are encountering.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, cloth face coverings provide limited protection to the wearer from contamination. A face covering's primary function is to protect other people from being contaminated by the wearer. Face coverings may help prevent self-contamination by preventing the wearer from touching their mouth and nose area.

**Employees shall wear a facial covering, whose duties require contact with other employees and/or the public, unless in a situation where a facial covering inhibits officer's safety. Deputies should be aware that certain mask designs may pose a risk of injury to the wearer in a confrontation with a suspect. The facial covering must meet the below listed specifications:**

- The face cover shall not significantly affect verbal communication. For example, a cloth face covering should not prevent personnel from giving clear verbal commands to a suspect or communicating clearly via radio;
- Cloth face coverings should be washable for decontamination purposes.
- Solid Colors only no patterns;
- Writing and insignias are not permitted;
- Material – Tightly woven cotton or similar tightly woven material which allows for near normal breathing while preventing particulate matter from passing through. Multiple layers of material are acceptable; and
- Accessories are not permitted to be affixed to the mask.

**If you have any questions or require additional information, the DOC is available 24 hours [REDACTED].**