

## TOWN OF EAST TROY POLICE DEPARTMENT

N9330 Stewart School Rd. PO Box 664 East Troy, WI 53120 Non-emergency 262.642.3700 Fax 262.642.9701

For Immediate Release No. 2020-020 Thursday, October 8, 2020

## MEDIA ADVISORY / PRESS RELEASE

On October 6, 2020, Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) Secretary-designee Andrea Palm issued Emergency Order #3, Limiting Public Gatherings ("order"), to slow the rapid spread of COVID-19, effective October 8, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02792.pdf

Following the announcement of Emergency Order #3, we have received inquiries regarding the enforcement of that Order.

Wisconsin Statute 252.25, the statute permitting enforcement of the order, does not allow citations to be issued against businesses. Businesses are free to set their own public health restrictions on the number of people who enter or gather within their business and they may deny entry or service to people refusing to follow the business's restrictions.

The Town of East Troy Police Department will not be responding to complaints of individuals suspected of violating the Emergency Order, nor take any direct law enforcement action as it relates specifically to Emergency Order #3. Consistent with our understanding of Emergency Order #3, the goal is education and compliance and not meant to be punitive.

This enforcement response is consistent with many law enforcement agencies throughout Wisconsin.

The Town of East Troy Police Department supports individual actions that can be taken to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Those actions include but are not limited to social distancing, proper washing of hands, use of hand sanitizers and the use of proper protective personal equipment (PPE), including masks. We appreciate the efforts of the business owners and public who have taken numerous steps to keep people healthy including but not limited to the use of safety barriers, social distance arrangements, as well as disinfecting procedures.

Call 211 for your questions specifically related to this Emergency Order. The Town of East Troy Police Department and Emergency Dispatch Center remains focused on emergency 911 calls.

For more information, you may contact Chief Jensen at the Town of East Troy Police Department at 262-642-3700.

Facebook hash tags - #toetpdprotecting #toetpd connecting

If you have questions or concerns you may contact Chief Jensen at 262-642-3700



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Our Department is sharing this information as this program is especially important for everyone that may need this service.

The Walworth County Sheriff's Office has launched a new, innovative program to enhance communication between first responders and individuals with special needs such as autism or any disability that affects their communication. This is a part of their effort to ensure the safety of all Walworth County residents when they have interactions with law enforcement, fire, and EMS.

Residents of Walworth County that have friends or families with autism or other special needs may go the Sheriff's Office website <a href="www.co.walworth.wi.us/886/Autism-aud-SpecialNeeds-Registry">www.co.walworth.wi.us/886/Autism-aud-SpecialNeeds-Registry</a> to electronically complete the form and submit it online. By clicking on the link, an individual is able to provide addresses, emergency contact info and other information for individuals with special needs. Information provided may include the primary diagnosis/disability, certain conditions, or behaviors the person has, as well as suggestions on how to approach or communicate with that person.

Photos of the individual can also be downloaded through this form. This information will be entered into the Records Management System through the Walworth County Sheriff's Office Communications Center, making it available to all Walworth County law enforcement and first responders. Those first responders will be able to access this vital information in the event of any emergency or call for service at the individual's home. This will benefit families and officers by reducing the possibility of misunderstandings or unnecessary stress for children and adults with disabilities when they come in contact with first responders.

Participating in this registry is strictly voluntary. All questions in the form are confidential and will only be used to improve the interaction between the listed person and public safety first responders. You must live in Walworth County to participate in this program.

If you have any questions, contact Deputy Dan Nelson at 262-903-9253 or via email at dnelson@co.walworth.wi.us

For more information, you may contact Chief Jensen at the Town of East Troy Police Department.

Telephone number 262-642-3700

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