

## March 13, 2020

## SEAL BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT COVID-19 UPDATE

The Seal Beach Police Department is continuing to provide public safety services to all members of the community during the COVID-19 public health emergency. This is an ongoing and evolving situation; therefore, the City and Police Department are constantly assessing the circumstances and evaluating how to best provide services to the public. In order to best serve the public and to help stop the spread of infection, the Police Department has implemented temporary changes to some response procedures:

- The Seal Beach Police Department will still continue to respond to all emergency calls for service as normal.
- For non-emergent or routine issues, West Cities Communication (dispatch) will be asking all callers who are requesting a police department response if the responding police officer may handle the call telephonically. If the caller agrees, then a police officer will telephone the caller and handle the call for service over the phone. In the event that the incident cannot be easily handled over the phone, a police officer will respond as normal.
- The SBPD also asks that the public avoid using the Police Department lobby if possible. Reports may be made over the phone by calling (562) 594-7232. For routine records requests, the public may email records@sealbeachca.gov for assistance.

As this situation continues to evolve, the Police Department may continue to make additional changes to our response procedures. However, please note that there will be **no interruption of emergency services** and the SBPD will still respond to calls for service. For additional information please closely monitor the Police Department's social media:

- https://www.facebook.com/SealBeachPoliceDepartment/
- https://www.instagram.com/sealbeachpolice/
- <u>https://twitter.com/sealbeachpolice</u>

To receive real time updates, the SBPD also encourages the public to sign up for Nixle Alerts. You can do this by visiting https://www.nixle.com/ or texting your zip code to 888777.

For additional information about the Coronavirus please visit:

- <u>http://www.ochealthinfo.com/phs/about/epidasmt/epi/dip/prevention/novel\_coronavirus</u>
- <u>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html</u>

Chief of Police Philip Gonshak wants to remind the community that "it is the goal of the Seal Beach Police Department to provide emergency services while being mindful of the potential for an increase in the spread of infection. Rest assured that we are here and are working hard with other City departments and our public safety partners to keep Seal Beach safe and healthy. If you have additional questions, do not hesitate to call us."

## PHILIP L. GONSHAK Chief of Police