

>>> Gregory VanPatten 8/25/2021 12:08 PM >>>

Karen,

The Sheriff's Office has implemented weekly COVID-19 testing of all our employees beginning this week.

We currently have twenty-three (23) working Patrol Deputies county-wide whereas at full staffing we would have forty (40) working Patrol Deputies.

We are anticipating even more staffing shortages due to the weekly testing which could result in Patrol Deputies being required to isolate for periods of at least 10-days with any positive test, even if they are vaccinated or asymptomatic.

This is taking into consideration the recently reported COVID-19 surge among the Mendocino County population.

As a result, we are going to be forced to reduce some services to ensure that we have the ability to provide public safety to immediate situations threatening the life and safety of the community. These types of situations are related to fire response, crimes against persons, and statutory services required of the Sheriff as examples.

Beginning today, the Sheriff's Office will not be responding to Mental Health related calls for service unless there is an immediate life-threatening situation to the public beyond a person just being suspected of having a Mental Health related crisis.

These types of non-life threatening situations will be directly referred to Mental Health for response.

We will respond to non-life threatening Mental Health situations only if it is a dual response like what we are currently doing with the Mobile Crisis Response Team model.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need clarification as to the content of this email.

Respectfully,

Gregory L. Van Patten #1184
Captain - Field Services Division
Public Information Officer

TO BE AN EFFECTIVE, PROFESSIONAL, COMMUNITY-ORIENTED PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCY THROUGH COOPERATIVE EFFORT

Mendocino County Sheriff's Office 951 Low Gap Road Ukiah, Ca 95482 707-463-4083 (Desk)

707-463-4411 (Main Office)
707-463-4086 (Dispatch) 707-463-4517 (Fax) vanpatg@mendocinocounty.org
www.mendocinosheriff.com
[www.twitter.com/MendoSheriff](https://twitter.com/MendoSheriff)
www.facebook.com/MendocinoSheriff
www.MendoReady.org
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/greglvanpatten>