

Contact: Rebecca Waugaman, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator  
Telephone: 724-548-3368  
E-mail: [rjferacioly@co.armstrong.pa.us](mailto:rjferacioly@co.armstrong.pa.us)

### **ARMSTRONG COUNTY WORKS TO SUPPLY FIRST RESPONDERS WITH PPE**

Kittanning, PA – Armstrong County works diligently to purchase and supply Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to first responders.

As shipments arrive, Armstrong County Department of Public Safety (DPS) will notify first responders, with EMS crews being priority, and arrange pick up of the equipment.

To date, EMS responders have been through two rounds of distribution of PPE supplies. The distributed PPE has been provided to the County by PEMA. Bergad Specialty Foams and Composites has also provided donations of face shields to first responders.

Armstrong County DPS meets weekly with EMS providers for situational updates. As a result of these meetings, EMS responders have come up with new and innovative ways to extend the life of the limited PPE supplies currently within the County.

Armstrong County DPS is in the process of reviewing a Department of Health (DOH) plan and non-disclosure agreement which would provide information to the County of COVID-19 cases. Under the non-disclosure agreement, the County would not be permitted to release any information on individual cases to the public. This information would only be able to be released to responding EMS units at their time of dispatch.

Since February 7, 2020, 9-1-1 dispatch operators have been screening calls of persons with flu-like symptoms in order to advise first responders of anyone presenting possible symptoms. There are no plans to change this process of notification of presumptive positive cases.

Armstrong County currently has reported 28 confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus and 1 death.

County officials encourage residents to continue to use the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines for social distancing, handwashing and self-quarantine.

###