



CITY OF MADISON POLICE DEPARTMENT  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
Captain Brian Chaney Austin



**OFFICIAL MPD COVID-19 TEAM CORRESPONDENCE**

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DATE: 3/16/2020

TO: All Madison PD Staff  
FROM: Captain Brian Chaney Austin  
SUBJECT: **Laundering Uniforms During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

ALL COMMISSIONED MPD staff should maintain two full uniforms (minimum two pants, two shirts) at their place of work until further notice. You are strongly encouraged to keep a set of street clothes to wear home if needed.

MPD Emergency Management recommends that you wear a clean uniform every day and that, absent a suspected exposure outlined below, you regularly launder your uniforms at home.

As a general note, COVID-19 is transmitted via droplets, so we are confident that handling dirty clothing (porous fabrics) will not result in an appreciable risk of infection.

- 1) Applicability: These laundry procedures apply to situations in which an MPD Officer has had a significant exposure to COVID-19 (per those guidelines) or with the permission of the OIC or a COVID-19 CP supervisor.
- 2) This does not apply to uniforms that are visibly soiled with mucus, vomit, blood or other substances. If uniforms are contaminated with any of the above, they should be thrown away with MPD patches destroyed or removed. (i.e., this does not change any situation where a uniform would have been considered destroyed by contamination in the past)
- 3) After resolving the COVID significant exposure protocol, the exposed officer's supervisor should ensure that the following is done:
  - i. Spray down the officer's duty belt with #38 hydrogen peroxide, allowing it to become damp and allow to air dry.
  - ii. Spray down the officer's footwear with #38 hydrogen peroxide, allowing it to become damp and allow to air dry.
  - iii. For external vest carriers:
  - iv. First, while the vest is still assembled, spray down the exterior front and back with #38 hydrogen peroxide.
  - v. Then, allow the officer to remove pins, name tags, pouches and holsters. Remove ballistic panels. Preparing the carrier for laundering.
  - vi. Place the external vest carrier into the mesh laundry bag.
  - vii. Secure duty belt and officer's items in a locker or armory.
- 4) Place the other uniform items to be laundered in the mesh laundry bag (Note number on red plastic tag on the bag, so the laundry bag can be returned to the owner). Place mesh bag in a plastic bag. Seal plastic bag.

- i. Uniform and external carrier can all be in the same bag.
- ii. Note red tag number and document owner of contents of mesh bag.
- iii. Supervisor should ensure the delivery of the bag to the VIF garage, placed in the taped off squad decon stall closest to the ARV garage door. Then email [pdccovid19@cityofmadison.com](mailto:pdccovid19@cityofmadison.com) to tell us that a delivery has been made, including the tag number, officers name, and list of items. The Covid Response Team will launder the equipment and return to the district.
- iv. No weapons/ammunition, or non-launderable items should be in the bag.

\*General laundering: MPD recognizes that not all officers may be comfortable laundering their uniforms at home.

The assessment of Dr. Anderson (MPD Medical Director) is that it is generally safe to launder your uniforms at home. If you don't want to do this, you can use the Training Center washer and dryer, in the loading dock, 24/7.

You will need to do this on your own time and with your own detergent. It is first come first serve (but the decontamination team has priority to use our facilities).