

CHIEF OF DETECTIVES

NOTICE

April 21, 2021

1.8

TO: All Concerned Personnel

FROM: Chief of Detectives

SUBJECT: RESPIRATORY PROTOCOL AT THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER'S OFFICE

PURPOSE:

This Notice provides updated protocol to investigating officers (I/O) while attending autopsies at the Los Angeles County Medical Examiner-Coroner's Office.

INFORMATION:

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is essential for protecting the body from foreign contaminants and minimizes the risk of contracting infectious diseases. The most essential piece of PPE is a respirator.

Currently, the Los Angeles County Medical Examiner-Coroner requires all personnel entering the autopsy room of their facility to wear one of the three types of respirator masks:

- N95 Disposable Particulate Respirator Mask (Minimum PPE);
- P95 Particulate Respirator Mask (Minimum PPE);
- 3M Respirator Quick Latch Half Mask with P100 filter (Magenta), or with attached High Efficiency Particulate Air-Purifying Filter (Preferred PPE).

Note: This Notice amends Office of Operations Notice No. 29, *Required use of Personal Respirators at Autopsies*, dated June 26, 1995, as it applies to the use of only "High Efficiency Particulate Air-Purifying Filter" (HEPA) respirator masks.

The Los Angeles County Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner no longer supplies respirators to Department employees. Each Area and division is required to maintain a moderate supply of N-95 Respirator Masks, which are secured from their respective Bureau Training Coordinators. Emergency Preparedness Unit, Emergency Services Division supplies Bureau Training Coordinators with the necessary N-95 Respirator Masks.

The respirator masks used by I/Os attending autopsies shall be fit tested per Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requirements prior to use. Fit tests are required to be completed annually through the City of Los Angeles Medical Services Division (MSD). However, due to Covid-19 restrictions, fit testing may not be available through MSD at this time. As an alternative, the fit test requirement may be completed at Custody Services Division (CSD). Currently CSD is providing fit tests for N95 Particulate Respirator Masks.

Note: Prior to obtaining a fit test, I/Os are required to complete and print a medical questionnaire from <http://per.ci.la.ca.us/msd/>. For more information refer to OCOP

Notice, *Respirator Protection Program (Aerosol Transmittable Disease Standard)*, dated August 4, 2015.

PROCEDURE:

I. INVESTIGATING OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES:

Prior to the I/O responding to the Los Angeles County Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner's office for an autopsy examination, he/she shall do the following:

- Make an appointment with the on-duty Forensic Tech Supervisor to have the autopsy viewed from a separate observation "VIP" room.

Note: A respirator is not required while observing an autopsy from the observation room. If an autopsy is required to be viewed in person for evidentiary value, then the I/O shall:

- Make an appointment with the Los Angeles County Medical Examiner-Coroner to attend an autopsy.
- Wear one of three approved respirator masks, which have been fit tested per OSHA Standard 1910.134(F) requirements.
- Upon request, provide proof of a Fit Test record to the Medical Examiner-Coroner Safety Officer.

Note: If a Fit Test record cannot be provided upon request then the Medical Examiner-Coroner Safety Officer may ask the I/O to step out of the examination room.

II. DETECTIVE SUPERVISOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES:

Detective Supervisors shall ensure I/Os are supplied with a OSHA approved respirator and attempt to have the I/O fit tested per OSHA Standard 1910.134(F) requirements. Ensure I/Os comply with the Respirator Protection Program outlined in OCOP Notice, *Respirator Protection Program (Aerosol Transmittable Disease Standard)*, dated August 4, 2015.

III. DETECTIVE COMMANDING OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES.

Detective Commanding Officers shall ensure compliance with this Notice.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this Notice, contact Detective Bureau at (213) 486-7000.



KRIS E. PITCHER, Deputy Chief
Chief of Detectives

APPROVED:



DANIEL RANDOLPH, Commander
Chief of Staff
Office of the Chief of Police



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER
1104 N. MISSION RD, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90033



Jonathan R. Lucas, M.D.
Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

April 3, 2020

TO: Autopsy Attendees
FROM: Adam Shephard, Safety Officer
SUBJECT: Respiratory Protection

Currently, the Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner requires the use of respiratory protection by all employees and visitors who enter our autopsy areas. These respirators are **NOT** provided to visitors by the Department of Medical Examiner-Coroner. Any visitor who is allowed into the autopsy area must provide their own fit tested respirator. The minimum protection required by our office is an N-95 particulate respirator. Those wearing a half mask respirator shall have a particulate filter (magenta) attached to it. As a reference, the following respirators are also used by our facility:

- Moldex 1512 N95 Respirator or Halyard N95 Disposable Respirator
- 3M- Respirator Quick Latch Half Mask (order #6503Q), used with a **P100 cartridge filter** (order #60921) or P100 Filter (2091)
- 3M- 8577 P95 Particulate Mask

The above items, or any equivalent product, may be purchased from a number of distributors. A few of the distributors are:

- Air Gas- (855) 625-5285 ext. 5647
- Morton Safety- (909) 455-0141
- Fisher Scientific- 800-766-7000
- Lab Safety Supply- 800-356-2501

As part of your respiratory program, all respirators must be fit-tested to the individual user to ensure a proper fit. Respirator fit-testing should be available through your agencies' employee healthcare provider or Risk Management unit. **Proof of this fit-test must be carried with you while in attendance in our facility.**

ORIGINAL MEMO DATE: MARCH 4, 2002

Accreditations:

National Association of Medical Examiners (Provisional)
California Medical Association-Continuing Medical Education
Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/LAB-International
Peace Officer Standards and Training Certified

RESPIRATOR FIT TEST RECORD

Company: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____ Tel: _____

Date: _____
 Name of Fit Tester: _____
 Signature: _____

Fit testing conducted in compliance with OSHA Standard 1910.134(F).
 If other local, state or federal regulations apply (such as MSHA), you may list them here: _____

Type of OSHA accepted fit test protocol used: (Qualitative): _____ Saccharin _____ Bitrex™ _____ Isoamyl Acetate _____ Irritant Smoke _____
 (Quantitative): Portacount Model # _____ Occupational Health Dynamic Model #: _____

| Name (please print) | Signature | Respirator Fit Tested (Make, Model, Style, Size) | Fit Test | | Could not be fit tested due to: |
|------------------------|-----------|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | Pass | Fail | |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
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| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

Comments: _____

Respiratory Fit Test

Name: _____ Date: _____
ID#: _____

Company: _____

was successfully fit tested in:

Manuf.: _____ Model: S M L QLFT/QNFT
Manuf.: _____ Model: S M L QLFT/QNFT
Manuf.: _____ Model: S M L QLFT/QNFT

Fit Tester: _____

You must be fit tested at least annually and if you change to a different respirator model. Conduct a User Seal Check each time the respirator is put on.

Prueba de Ajuste del Respirador Fecha:

Nombre: _____ Documento: _____

Compañía: _____

ha cumplido satisfactoriamente con el test de ajuste del respirador:

Marca: _____ Modelo: S M L QLFT/QNFT
Marca: _____ Modelo: S M L QLFT/QNFT
Marca: _____ Modelo: S M L QLFT/QNFT

Responsable del test: _____

Usted debe realizar la prueba de ajuste por lo menos una vez al año y además si cambia el modelo de respirador. Haga la verificación de ajuste cada vez que se lo coloque.

OFFICE OF OPERATIONS

NOTICE NO. 29

June 26, 1995

TO: Concerned Detective Commanding Officers, Office of Operations

FROM: Director, Office of Operations

SUBJECT: REQUIRED USE OF PERSONAL RESPIRATORS AT AUTOPSIES

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

PURPOSE

This Notice provides information on a new requirement by the Coroner's Office that Department personnel must wear a protective respirator while attending autopsies.

INFORMATION

The Los Angeles County Coroner's Office has informed the Department that protective respirator masks meeting specific safety requirements must be worn by Department personnel while attending autopsies. The Coroner's Office has imposed this requirement to protect against infectious diseases. After August 1, 1995, Department personnel not wearing these protective masks will not be allowed to attend autopsies.

The Coroner's Office has specified that only a "High Efficiency Particulate Air-Purifying Filter" (HEPA) respirator mask will meet occupational safety requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). To meet this immediate need, a limited number of HEPA respirator masks, replacement filters and cleaning materials are available at Supply Division for issuance to currently assigned homicide detectives. The respirator masks and accessories can be ordered from Supply Division on a Requisition, Form 15.11.

The HEPA respirator masks are available in small, medium and large sizes. Each mask is equipped with two disposable filters. A respirator will be provided to homicide detectives as "personal issue" equipment. Bureau Training Coordinators have been

Required Use of Personal
Respirators at Autopsies

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provided with "Fit Test" training apparatus which must be used to ensure the respirator masks fit properly. Training in the use and maintenance of the HEPA respirator masks will be provided to the Area Training Coordinators by the Bureau Training Coordinators.

PROCEDURE

Detective Commanding Officers' Responsibilities

Concerned detective commanding officers shall:

- * Ensure that each homicide detective under his/her command has been issued a HEPA respirator mask.
- * Ensure that the requisition includes the name and serial number of each currently assigned homicide detective to be issued a respirator mask.

NOTE: The number of requested respirator masks shall correspond to the approximate number of assigned homicide detectives as listed on the monthly Homicide Activity Summary prepared by all homicide coordinators and submitted to Investigative Analysis Section.

- * Ensure that all homicide detectives under his/her command have received training in the proper use and maintenance of the HEPA respirator. This training will be provided by Area Training Coordinators.

Bureau Training Coordinators' Responsibilities

Bureau Training Coordinators shall:

- * Train Area Training Coordinators concerning issuance, use and maintenance of HEPA respirator masks.
- * Maintain a serviceable HEPA "Fit Test" training apparatus assigned to each bureau for use by Area Training Coordinators.

Area Training Coordinators' Responsibilities

Area Training coordinators shall:

- * Obtain the HEPA "Fit Test" training apparatus from his/her concerned bureau.
- * Provide training to homicide detectives concerning the proper fit, use and maintenance of the HEPA respirator masks.

Detective Supervisors' Responsibilities
Homicide Coordinators shall:

- * Ensure that respirators are obtained from Supply Division, Stores Section, and issued to each assigned homicide detective as listed in the requisition after approval by the concerned detective commanding officer.
- * Ensure that detectives who attend autopsies receive training in the proper fit, use, care and maintenance of the HEPA respirator.

Detectives' Responsibilities

At the direction of his/her detective commanding officer, detectives assigned to conduct homicide investigations shall:

- * Receive training provided by Area Training Coordinators concerning the use and maintenance of the HEPA respirator mask, prior to attending an autopsy.
- * Wear his/her issued HEPA Respirator Mask when entering autopsy areas.

AUDIT RESPONSIBILITY

To ensure an adequate supply of replacement filters used in the HEPA respirators, concerned detective commanding officers shall determine the number of filters used by his/her homicide detectives during the months of August, September, October 1995. This information shall be reported to Investigative Analysis Section no later than November 10, 1995.


BAYAN LEWIS, Assistant Chief
Director
Office of Operations

DISTRIBUTION "0"

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

NOTICE
12.3.1

August 4, 2015

TO: All Commanding Officers

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: RESPIRATOR PROTECTION PROGRAM (AEROSOL TRANSMITTABLE DISEASE STANDARD)

This Notice outlines specific Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) mandates for sworn personnel scheduled to participate in respirator protection training.

In accordance with OSHA and by virtue of State law, any sworn officer wearing a respirator shall complete a medical evaluation questionnaire and receive medical clearance prior to donning and deploying an air purifying respirator. Therefore, the Department developed the following protocol for ensuring compliance with OSHA requirements and regulations for all sworn personnel assigned to respirator protection training.

- Sworn personnel upon receiving a notice for respirator protection training shall log on to <http://per.ci.la.ca.us/msd/> to complete the medical evaluation and screening form;
- Once the employee receives medical clearance, a Medical Services Division (MSD) physician or licensed health care professional will issue the employee an Occupational Health Screening Card; and,
- Sworn Personnel shall carry the Occupational Health Screening Card to the training site.

Note: Sworn Personnel shall complete the medical evaluation and screening form and be fit-tested **annually** with their assigned air purifying respirators.

Any questions regarding this Notice may be directed to Senior Personnel Analyst II Cece Harper-Paris, Officer in Charge, Medical Liaison Section, Personnel Division, at (213) 486-4600.



CHARLIE BECK
Chief of Police

DISTRIBUTION "B"

COUNTER-TERRORISM AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS BUREAU

NOTICE

16.2

October 8, 2015

TO: All Concerned Commanding Officers

FROM: Commanding Officer, Counter-Terrorism and Special Operations Bureau

SUBJECT: RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PLAN – OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SCREENING CARD

The Personnel and Training Bureau Notice dated March 23, 2011, entitled *Annual Respiratory Protection Medical Clearance* established procedures outlined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA-CFR 29 1910.120) that mandated annual medical clearance of all sworn personnel prior to the donning and deploying of the Department facial respirator. The Notice outlined responsibilities assigned to Area/Division Training Coordinators, the Counter-Terrorism Training Unit (CTTU), and Medical Liaison Section. An Office of Chief of Police Notice dated August 4, 2015, entitled *Respirator Protection Program (Aerosol Transmittable Disease Standard)* restated the requirement to obtain the Occupational Health Screening Card prior to participating in respirator protection training. The Notices are attached for reference.

Effective July 12, 2015, the CTTU was deactivated and all personnel, equipment and responsibilities were transferred into Emergency Operations Division (EOD), including the CTTU responsibilities delineated in the original Notice. This Notice serves as a reminder of the procedures required before Department personnel will be allowed to participate in the THREAT 8 Weapons of Mass Destruction training, or other training wherein a student will don a facial respirator. The procedures delineated within the original Notice are reiterated below and the CTTU responsibilities have been updated to reflect the recent organizational change.

AREA/DIVISION TRAINING COORDINATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

- Check the Learning Management System (LMS) for a current list of sworn employees due for Respiratory Protection medical screening;
- Have employees complete the OSHA Respirator Medical Evaluation Questionnaire online at <http://per.ci.la.ca.us/msd/> (prior to employees responding to Medical Services Division, Personnel Department, for medical screening).
- Once the employee receives medical clearance, Medical Services Division, Personnel Department, healthcare professionals will issue the employee via email an Occupational Health Screening Card.
 - Note: Employees may have to meet with the healthcare professionals should any of the answers to the questions require follow up or should the employee request to meet with the healthcare professionals in person.
- Verify sworn employees have successfully completed the OSHA Respiratory Medical

- Evaluation Questionnaire and have received their Occupational Health Screening Card;
- Advise sworn employees that they shall carry the Occupational Health Screening Card with them to training; and,
- Email a list of sworn employees cleared to attend the annual THREAT 8 Weapons of Mass Destruction Update Training to the Emergency Preparedness Unit, EOD, at EODEPU@LAPD.LACITY.ORG.
 - NOTE: Only personnel that have completed the prerequisite 16-hour Law Enforcement Protective Measures and Law Enforcement Response Actions training shall be scheduled for THREAT 8 training.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS DIVISION RESPONSIBILITIES

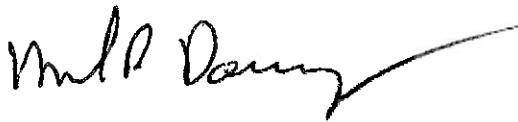
- Verify that sworn personnel attending training have been medically cleared by checking the Occupational Health Screening Card which will be issued to each sworn employee at the conclusion of medical screening.
 - NOTE: Any employee who responds to training and cannot verify compliance of a medical screening must immediately report back to his/her division without participation in the Respiratory Protection Training.
- Verify that sworn personnel have completed the prerequisite 16-hour course.

MEDICAL LIAISON SECTION RESPONSIBILITIES

- Coordinate with Medical Services Division, Personnel Department, to obtain a list of the sworn employees cleared or not cleared for the Respiratory Protection Training.
 - NOTE: All sworn personnel shall be fitted annually with their Department issued air purifying respirator.

If there are any questions, please contact Captain Philip S. Fontanetta, Commanding Officer, EOD, at (213) 486-0680.

APPROVED:



MICHAEL P. DOWNING, Deputy Chief
Commanding Officer
Counter-Terrorism and Special Operations Bureau



SEAN W. MALINOWSKI, Commander
Chief of Staff
Office of the Chief of Police

Attachment

DISTRIBUTION "B"

**PERSONNEL AND TRAINING BUREAU
PERSONNEL DIVISION**

NOTICE
12.3.1

March 23, 2011

TO: All Concerned Commanding Officers

FROM: Commanding Officer, Personnel Division

SUBJECT: ANNUAL RESPIRATORY PROTECTION MEDICAL CLEARANCE

This Notice establishes procedures outlined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA-CFR 29 1910.120), which mandates annual medical clearance of all sworn personnel prior to the donning and deploying of the Department facial respirator. As such, the Department has developed procedures to ensure compliance with OSHA requirements and regulations for all sworn personnel.

I. AREA/DIVISION TRAINING COORDINATORS RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Check the Learning Management System (LMS) for a current list of sworn employees due for Respiratory Protection medical screening;
- Have employees complete the OSHA Respirator Medical Evaluation Questionnaire online, prior to employees responding to Medical Services Division (MSD) for medical screening;
- Once employee receives medical clearance, MSD healthcare professionals will issue the employee an Occupational Health Screening Card via email;
- Verify sworn employees have successfully completed the OSHA Respirator Medical Evaluation Questionnaire and have received their Occupational Health Screening Card;
- Advise sworn employees that they shall carry the Occupational Health Screening Card with them to training; and,
- Provide a list of sworn employees cleared to attend the annual Threat 8 Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Training to the Counter Terrorism Training Unit.

II. COUNTER TERRORISM TRAINING UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Verify that sworn personnel attending training have been medically cleared by checking the Occupational Health Screening Card which will be issued to each sworn employee at the conclusion of the medical screening;

Note: Any employee who responds to training and cannot verify compliance of a medical screening must immediately report back to his/her division without participation in the Respiratory Protection Training.

III. MEDICAL LIAISON SECTION RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Coordinate with MSD to obtain a list of the sworn employees cleared or not cleared for the Respiratory Protection Training.

Note: All sworn personnel shall be fitted annually with their Department issued air purifying respirator.

If there are any questions regarding this Notice, please contact the Officer in Charge, Medical Liaison Section, Personnel Division, at (213) 486-4600.

APPROVED:



FRANÇOIS L. GARDERE JR., Police Administrator
Commanding Officer
Personnel Division



STEPHEN R. JACOBS, Commander
Chief of Staff
Office of the Chief of Police

DISTRIBUTION "B"