



South Metro Fire Rescue Contact:
On-Call Public Information Officer
720.608.9366

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

South Metro Fire Rescue Confirms Two Firefighters Test Presumptive Positive for COVID-19

Centennial, Colo. — (March 25, 2020) — South Metro Fire Rescue has just confirmed that two firefighters have tested presumptive positive for COVID-19. These individuals are currently self-isolating and managing their symptoms at home and recovering.

South Metro has also immediately notified the other SMFR crews who were in direct contact with these individuals during their shift and have asked them to isolate per the CDC's recommendations of 14 days before returning to work so that they, too, can self-monitor for COVID-19 related symptoms. Currently, there are a total of 12 SMFR firefighters who are self-isolating to monitor for symptoms as a result of possible exposures throughout South Metro Fire Rescue's District.

South Metro is committed to supporting these individuals is staying in close contact with them to ensure that all their needs are taken care of. Additionally, if there are any other direct exposures that are found from individuals, citizens and/or patients who have come in direct contact with any of our SMFR personnel who have tested positive for COVID-19, we will be making appropriate notifications.

“Out of an abundance of caution, we are taking every proactive and preventative measure to ensure that we limit as much exposure to our crews, our citizens and our community during this time,” said Assistant Chief of Operations Jon Adams. “We know that our SMFR personnel are on the frontlines of emergency medicine and we are committed to continuing to help our community. We are actively monitoring all our personnel for possible exposures, and safety and well-being of our crews and citizens are our top priority during this pandemic.”

South Metro will continue to take proactive measures to limit as much exposure as possible. This includes:

- Continuing to screen all medical calls in our MetCom 911 Dispatch Center.
- Our paramedics wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Transferring patients to hospital care without entering emergency departments.

- Adequately cleaning and disinfecting stations and medic units through a dedicated DECON unit.
- Doing health checks on all SMFR personnel coming on shifts and leaving shifts to ensure that they are healthy. This includes taking temperatures and monitoring for possible COVID-19 symptoms.

###

About South Metro Fire Rescue

South Metro Fire Rescue (SMFR) is committed to helping the community it serves, including 287 square miles in Douglas and Arapahoe counties. With 29 stations in the south metro area, SMFR provides emergency and prevention services to approximately 540,000 residents and thousands more who come into our communities to work. Specifically, SMFR serves the cities of Bow Mar, Castle Pines, Centennial, Cherry Hills Village, Columbine Valley, Foxfield, Greenwood Village, Littleton, Lone Tree, and Parker, as well as Castle Pines Village, Highlands Ranch, Louviers, Centennial Airport, the Denver Tech Center, Inverness, and the Meridian Office Park as well as unincorporated portions of Arapahoe and Douglas counties. For more information, please visit <http://www.southmetro.org>.