

**MEDIA RELEASE/COMMUNITY ALERT
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
March 26, 2020
Contact: Fire Marshal, Robert Marshall
650-678-1176
www.smcfire.org**



San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department Employee Tests Positive for COVID-19

San Mateo- A first responder with the San Mateo Consolidated Fire Department has tested positive for COVID-19.

It is unknown how the member contracted the virus, but they began to feel ill last week while on duty. The individual identified some symptoms that were consistent with the virus, and was tested.

The infected employee is recovering at home, and has not been hospitalized.

“We are saddened that our employee contracted the virus, but we are monitoring their progress and are optimistic that they will make a full recovery,” said Fire Chief Ray Iverson.

The department has initiated a self monitoring protocol for all employees, which includes monitoring for any signs or symptoms, including fever, several times during the day. Additionally, 15 employees who had close contact with the person who tested positive are being tested for the virus out of an abundance of caution.

The infected responder did not have any patient contact. The department is taking all appropriate precautions to ensure transmission to others does not occur through cleaning and disinfecting areas in which the individual worked in.

To respect the individual’s privacy, no further details will be provided at this time. We appreciate everyone’s support as we continue to serve our communities.

###