

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**March 20, 2020**

### Police Department Modifying Police Services to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 Virus

**Douglas, AZ – March 20, 2020.** In an effort to safeguard our personnel, our families and ultimately you our community, the Douglas Police Department will be taking precautionary measures intended to minimize incidental contact and slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Effective today, the Douglas Police Department will suspend fingerprinting and ride-along services to the public. Additionally, the majority of non-emergency calls for service will be recorded by a police officer via telephone versus an in-person response. This is intended to minimize the number of responses involving in-person contact and limit the potential risks to the community.

Residents are encouraged to conduct business remotely by phone, email and fax for filing and requesting reports. The lobby will remain open for the time being as access is limited to the lobby and service can be conducted via a pass-through window which will continue to be sanitized regularly. For non-emergency calls for service and for records requests, the public is asked to call 520-417-7550 and refrain from coming to the Department to conduct business.

Officers will continue to respond to in-progress calls and emergency situations as they do currently. If you have an emergency, please continue to call 9-1-1.

As previously noted, the City of Douglas is actively monitoring this situation closely as it continues to evolve and will implement the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Arizona Department of Health Services and the Cochise County Health Department as they are updated.

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