



**HANCOCK COUNTY
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

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Brian T. Adam,
Director

John A. Evans,
Deputy Director

Date: March 19, 2020

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Press Release 15: Bay St. Louis Police Department

Chief Gary Ponthieux Jr., announced that:

In response to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus), the Bay St. Louis Police Department has implemented new procedures for officers and employees to help reduce exposure to the virus. We ask you for patience as we continue to evaluate information and procedures in response to the virus.

Until further notice, it is requested that citizens not come to the police station for nonemergency walk-in complaints. Instead, we encourage our citizens to contact Central Dispatch at (228) 255-9191. The Bay St. Louis Police Department will be able to respond to non-emergency complaints via telephone. Officers will still be able to complete reports and provide relevant information.

When Officers do respond in person, we ask that the complainant meet our Officers outside when possible. If you believe you have been exposed or you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, please notify the dispatcher prior to the Officer's arrival. Officers have been instructed to practice safe distances and other techniques to limit exposure.

The Bay St. Louis Police Department will continue to provide essential public safety services to our community during this evolving event.

Thank you;

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Brian T. Adam'.

Brian T. Adam
EMA Director