



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

CITY OF MILWAUKEE  
FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 5, 2020

**STATEMENT FROM THE BOARD REGARDING COVID-19**

The Fire & Police Commission (FPC) wish to convey their position to city residents regarding the COVID-19 Stay-At-Home Order, and the subsequent local ordinance that allows the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) the authority to issue citations to those who violate that Order.

“ The FPC remains dedicated in helping to combat COVID-19 and work with partners to reduce transmission within the City. As we will continue to share on-going guidance provided by the Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) – we will also ensure that both Fire & Police departments are using proper operating procedures when interacting with residents – whether it be Firefighters and EMTs responding to emergency medical calls or police officers working to educate and enforce these critical health orders.

We are supportive of MPD and the Health Department being able to issue a citation up to \$500 for those violating the health orders: however, ticketing alone does not solve the root of the problem. MPD and MFD will also be held to the same standards as the citizens that they serve. There must be continued education and compliance from both community organizations and city departments.

As of May 4, 2020, there were 2,463 confirmed cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) and 128 deaths in the city. We also know that this virus affects communities of color at disproportionate rates. This is why we are again urging the community to practice everyday preventive actions such as:

- regularly washing your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (especially when hands are visibly soiled)
- using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60%–95% alcohol
- covering your cough and sneeze
- avoid sick people
- staying home when sick (except to seek medical care)

We ask that you Stay home from work, school, or group gatherings whether or not you feel ill or have symptoms. ”



**Board of Commissioners**

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