

Navajo Police Department employees test positive to COVID-19

Written by gallupsun
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WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. - The Navajo Police Department confirms two employees have tested positive to COVID-19.

The Navajo Police Department Office of Chief of Police was notified of the confirmation on April 13. The employees have been placed on self-quarantine and are monitoring their symptoms.

“Our employee’s health and well being is a priority and as essential employees working in the field of public safety, we are not immune from the possibility of having one of our law enforcement family contract the virus. As the numbers of positive cases increase across the Navajo Nation, so does our risk of being exposed.” Chief Phillip Francisco said. “The health and safety of our officers and the staff who work closely with them are a priority and we will monitor all personnel as we continue to provide essential services.”

Since the first case of COVID-19 on the Navajo Nation, the department has planned and implemented several precautionary measures to ensure the safety of the officers, civilian staff and the public from exposure.

“Our responsibilities put us in a high-risk environment and the concerns for officers and staff safety is always present. We will continue to support one another and get through this.” Francisco stated. “Our officers remain dedicated and our services will continue. We will continue to support our staff members who are in quarantine and continue our job as public safety officers.”

The names and roles of the staff members will not be released for their privacy and overall well-being.



"We understand the risks that all of our officers take every day and with the COVID-19 pandemic, the risk is escalated even higher. The safety of our officers is always the top priority that's why it's critical that everyone stays home as much as possible. When people take

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unnecessary risks, it creates more challenges and compromises the well-being of those on the front lines. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of our Navajo Police Officers.” Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez stated.