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## MEDIA RELEASE

<b>DATE:</b> March, 25 2020	<b>CONTACT:</b> Josh Miller
<b>TIME:</b> 4:15pm	<b>PHONE:</b> 715-839-8698
<b># PAGES:</b> 1	<b>EMAIL:</b> joshua.miller@eauclairwi.gov
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Safer at Home Order	@EauClairePD          @EauClairePD          @EauClairePD

We would like to thank the people of Eau Claire who have demonstrated outstanding efforts to know and comply with this and earlier emergency health safeguards. There have been a lot of questions regarding the Governor's Safer at Home Order and how your Police Department will enforce the order. In an effort to partner with you for the safety of our community, the ECPD would like you to know the following:

What we are doing:

- We encourage all residents to follow the Governor's Safer at Home orders. We are working with our community partners to educate everyone on what these are. Up to date information can be found at:

<https://www.eauclairwi.gov/government/our-divisions/health-department/coronavirus>

- People violating the orders, such as having a non-essential business open for customers, large gatherings, eating or drinking inside a bar or restaurant, etc. will find our agency utilizing a progressive enforcement strategy, including:

- o Education on the Safer at Home Order, and a request for voluntary compliance.

- o Officers have authority to order a facility closed and individuals to disburse. Failure to comply with such a lawful order may result in issuance of an ordinance citation or arrest.

- o The Safer at Home Order also grants enforcement authority to local law enforcement, including authority to arrest individuals violating the order, as provided by Wisconsin State Statute 252.25 Violation of Law Relating to Health.

The ECPD would like to stress it is in everyone's interest that we work together during this time. Our goal is education and compliance, not arrests.

We will not be doing the following:

- We WILL NOT be conducting random traffic stops or checkpoints to see if people are leaving their homes for work or necessities.
- You DO NOT need paperwork to leave your house, and we will not be asking people about paperwork.

What we would like you to do:

If you have concerns of a violation occurring, please DO NOT call our 911 Communications Center. Report the information to the Health Department COVID-19 Line 715-831-7425, online at [www.eauclairwi.gov/police](http://www.eauclairwi.gov/police), or through Eau Claire County Crime Stoppers.

Sincerely,

Ben Frederick  
 Lieutenant of Police  
 Eau Claire Police Department