



# SHERIFF KOOTENAI COUNTY



SHERIFF **BEN WOLFINGER**

UNDERSHERIFF **DAN MATTOS**

## MEDIA RELEASE

### For Immediate Release:

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### Daily Press Release

**Kootenai County, Idaho:** On March 15<sup>th</sup> the Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners signed a disaster declaration to help combat the COVID-19 event and provide the county and the community Federal and State resources to assist with this incident. As a result of this declaration, the Office of Emergency Management has activated the Emergency Operations Center.

The Emergency Operations Center was activated to provide the public with one clear and correct message and establish a unified front to deal with any possible issues that may arise due to this incident.

As of 4:00 pm the Idaho Department of Labs is currently reporting there are 5 people who have tested positive for COVID-19 across the state and 0 who have tested positive for COVID-19 in Kootenai County. It is also unknown how many people have submitted tests for the COVID-19. Understand that with the addition of private labs to help process test kits, the numbers from the Idaho Department of Labs maybe delayed.

We ask that if you have questions about what to do and what steps to take to please go to the Center of Disease Control website at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) or call Panhandle Health at 877-415-5225.

Sheriff Ben Wolfinger  
By: Lt. Ryan Higgins