



MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
**BOROUGH OF RUTHERFORD**

**John R. Russo**  
**Chief of Police**

**November 13, 2020**

Dear Rutherford Residents,

I would like to take this time to remind you that the Borough is seeing positive COVID-19 increases within the Borough that are as high as any time during the peak of the first wave of this virus. For the benefit of all of us, I am again asking you to strictly adhere to the Governor's Executive Orders regulating gatherings <https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-173.pdf> and the use of PPE.

In Mayor Frank Nunziato's November 5, 2020 newsletter, I mentioned how unregulated house parties and indoor gathers can be super-spreaders of COVID-19. These gatherings are without a doubt a major concern of ours as we have seen our positive cases continue to significantly rise, with 17 new cases reported just yesterday. We have also noticed that the transmissions within households is extremely high.

The Rutherford Police Department will be strictly enforcing these Executive Orders. We all have done some tremendous work to date, but we need to remain vigilant. We will continue to provide services to the Borough but please understand that as these positive cases continue to rise, so does the threat to our first responders. I currently have 17% of my department on quarantine as a result of work-related exposures. While exposure to COVID-19 is an unavoidable aspect of our duties, we need to limit unnecessary exposures that are a result of individuals' unwillingness to adhere to simple guidelines.

Historically, these next few weeks are the time when we begin to gather for the holidays and those away at college return to catch-up with friends and family. I am asking you to do so responsibly. I have instructed my department to strictly enforce the Executive Order regulating indoor gatherings. We will overcome this spike in positive COVID-19 cases, but it will need to be a team effort.

As always, I thank you for your cooperation and look forward to gathering with you all to celebrate the end of COVID-19.

Sincerely,

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