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MEDIA RELEASE:

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Based on recommendations from health experts regarding COVID-19, we are taking actions to better protect our community and first responders. Our 9-1-1 Communications Center has implemented additional screening questions related to the pandemic for callers on 9-1-1 or the 815-748-8400 non-emergency line.

Should the nature of your call require a response from police, fire, or EMS personnel, a telecommunicator will likely be asking additional questions to see if you or anyone in your home has any symptoms of COVID-19. These questions include asking about recent travel, contact with persons who have been out of the country, and if you or anyone you've had contact with are displaying any symptoms of the virus.

Our goal is to provide the necessary help while protecting our first responders to the extent we can so they can continue to serve the community's public safety needs.

Furthermore, be advised that first responders may greet you wearing a mask, and they may ask you questions from a safe distance. This is for your safety as well as theirs.

Thanks for your cooperation and understanding.

The contents of this press release are based upon the best information available to the DeKalb Police Department. The statements regarding the conduct of any person identified above are allegations until affirmatively proven in Court. All persons are presumed innocent until proven guilty.