

## **FAQ's for the Rochester Police Department in a Disaster or Large-Scale Emergency**

### **1) If a curfew is ordered, how will this impact me or what does this mean?**

If a curfew is ordered for all citizens, it is in the best interest of the community to stay in your home at the hours that the curfew is in effect. Plan ahead by prioritizing and completing tasks necessary during the time outside of the curfew. A curfew is imposed to protect the safety of everyone. The City will notify the public when the curfew has been lifted.

### **2) Should my Emergency Kit include weapons, i.e. firearms, knives, pepper spray, etc.?**

If properly handled and made safe, cutting instruments and personal protection items are acceptable in an emergency kit. They should not replace, however, life-safety essentials like food and clothing. All existing laws would apply to the firearms.

### **3) If I see a bomb or think I suspect one, what should I do?**

Leave the area. Call 911 from a safe distance. Do not go near the suspected item or touch it.

### **4) Does a Police Officer have the legal right to make me evacuate by house or business?**

Yes, during a declared emergency evacuation the Police will work in conjunction with the Fire Department to protect the life safety of everyone.

### **5) If I evacuated my house, can I re-enter my neighborhood if I have no identification?**

Only after the area is deemed safe and the evacuation is cleared.

### **6) If a traffic light is out, what should I do?**

Treat it as a four way stop sign.

### **7) Does the Police Department have the authority to stop the sale of alcohol?**

During an emergency, the governing City Council has the authority to declare temporary ordinances in the best interest of preserving and controlling City order.

### **8) During an emergency, how can I help the Police Department?**

During any large-scale emergency or disaster, emergency services are being utilized at a higher level than normal. Citizens are encouraged to follow City requests for action and pay attention to City broadcasts and social media announcements. Please be patient with response times as requests for services are prioritized as they come into dispatch. If you would like to volunteer your assistance in any way please contact reputable and City affiliated services aiding in the recovery.