



# HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** All Officers and Members  
**From:** Matthew White, Assistant Fire Chief *MW*  
**Through:** Justin Wells, Executive Assistant Fire Chief *JW*  
**Subject:** COVID1/ETHAN Testing Program  
**Date:** December 1, 2020

**Mayor**  
Sylvester Turner

**City Council**

**District A**  
Amy Peck

**District B**  
Jerry Davis

**District C**  
Abbie Kamin

**District D**  
Carolyn Evans-Shabazz

**District E**  
Dave Martin

**District F**  
Tiffany Thomas

**District G**  
Greg Travis

**District H**  
Karla Cisneros

**District I**  
Robert Gallegos

**District J**  
Edward Pollard

**District K**  
Martha Castex-Tatum

**At-Large 1**  
Mike Knox

**At-Large 2**  
David Robinson

**At-Large 3**  
Michael Kubosh

**At-Large 4**  
Letitia Plummer

**At-Large 5**  
Sallie Alcorn

**Controller,**  
Chris Brown

Starting Tuesday, December 1, 2020 HFD personnel will be staffing a site at 1051 Girard Street (entrance 57 at the Ambulance Barn) for the purpose of COVID testing. This program is being funded and managed through a joint effort by the ETHAN project with the Houston Health Department providing the COVID-19 tests. The hours of operation will be daily from 10:00 – 20:00 hours.

**Program Overview**

HFD unit utilization of ETHAN project for patients requesting transport for COVID testing:

- Only persons who call 911 and meet all the criteria for an ETHAN physician evaluation, are evaluated by the physician, and subsequently scheduled by an ETHAN doctor for an appointment at the site will be able to utilize the program. HFD units may utilize this option instead of requesting a transport unit for the patient. *It is not a testing site for the general public.*

Symptomatic HFD member utilization when referred by ICO for COVID testing:

- Any HFD firefighters who are referred for a COVID test through the Infection Control Office (346) 291-4964 and wish to use this site will be scheduled through the ICO as a priority.

Scheduled Appointments by ETHAN (citizens) or ICO (HFD members) are required for all testing; no ‘walk-ups’.

HFD members who are credentialed as an EMT-B or Paramedic of any rank who are interested to staff and administer COVID tests to firefighters and ETHAN clients may contact District Chief Kim Phillips 1100 A-shift, via email, at [kim.phillips@houstontx.gov](mailto:kim.phillips@houstontx.gov). There will be a mandatory one-hour training session, given at regular intervals, for members who wish to participate in this project.

20-286



**Samuel Peña, Fire Chief**  
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 “Courage, Commitment and Compassion”  
[www.houstontx.gov/fire](http://www.houstontx.gov/fire)

