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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SHERIFF'S OFFICE MAKES PUBLIC SAFETY PRIORITY #1 AS IT PREPARES FOR WINTER STORM

Monmouth County: Sheriff Shaun Golden continues to make public safety a top priority as the approaching winter storm may cause heavy snow, severe coastal flooding, high winds and power outages. The Sheriff's Office – Office of Emergency Management (OEM) will be working throughout the duration of the storm to address county emergencies and assist municipalities with any public safety needs that may arise before, during and after the storm.

“We will be doing our jobs and ask that residents continue to monitor the weather and follow the direction of public safety officials,” said Sheriff Shaun Golden, whose office runs OEM. “It's expected to be a major storm with coastal flooding which is a big concern for Monmouth County, particularly during Tuesday morning's high tide. If we all heed to the warnings and pay close attention to the storm's impact, we should get through this without incident.”

“Preparing, planning and staying informed makes dealing with weather related events that may affect Monmouth County, much easier,” said Mike Oppegaard, OEM Coordinator. “Now is the time to take basic steps and plan what you will do if heavy snow, severe flooding and high winds occur or if power goes out for an extended period of time.”

Public Safety Telecommunicators are on hand and prepared for the influx of emergency calls expected throughout this significant weather event.

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Residents are being asked not call 9-1-1 unless they experience a real emergency. It's important to keep the emergency 9-1-1 lines open so that public safety telecommunicators can process each real emergency call and help those truly in need.

In addition, the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement Division is prepared to assist municipalities in the event that power outages occur. Highway emergency assistance teams will be deployed to strategic locations for assistance with stranded motorists and the Maritime Emergency Response Team (MERT) will respond if needed to flooding and other water related incidents.

"Please stay off the roads for your own safety so that public works can do its job and clear the roadways. Safety works when we all work together" said Sheriff Golden.

Please stay up to date with the latest information from the Monmouth County Sheriff's Office regarding the storm: Like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter and Instagram @MonmouthSheriff or download our App for urgent push notifications and weather information via the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store. Search: Monmouth County Sheriff's Office