

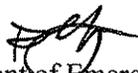


# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

November 6, 2009

To: Municipal Chief Executive Officer  
Tribal Nation Chief Executive Officer  
Emergency Management Directors

From: J. Robert Galvin, MD, MPH, MBA   
Commissioner, CT Department of Public Health

Peter J. Boynton,   
Commissioner, CT Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security

Re: **Strategic National Stockpile Asset Distribution**

Recently, the State of Connecticut requested equipment, in the form of N95 filtering face piece respirators, from the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) to help further protect emergency response personnel and other healthcare providers in our state from contracting the novel H1N1 influenza virus in the course of their work during the current pandemic. The Governor has now authorized the distribution of this personal protective equipment directly to communities.

The intent of this distribution is to assist towns by providing a **supplemental** supply of respiratory protection for emergency response personnel, such as Police, Fire, and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers, both municipal-based and other EMS providers serving their communities. Because the resources being distributed as part of this effort are limited, the amounts being allocated to individual towns has been determined based on town population estimates. Departments should accept this allocation only if they have a reasonable belief that their employees may be exposed to individuals infected with novel H1N1 influenza during their normal provision of services. As part of this distribution effort, health departments, schools, and boards of education will also be receiving some allocation of respiratory protection equipment: however these organizations will receive their allocations through other mechanisms.

This deployment of N95 respirators is related to a reported nationwide shortage of, and the anticipated need for, N95 respirators by healthcare providers, including emergency response personnel, during the novel H1N1 influenza pandemic. The N95 Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) letter that was initially issued on April 27, 2009, and amended on May 1, 2009, remains in effect. Additionally, the "Summary Fact Sheet for Disposable Respirators for Use During the Swine Flu Emergency" must be made available to recipients of N95 respirators that are deployed from the SNS (this fact sheet can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/eua/summary-factsheet.htm>).

In the next few days, the Connecticut Departments of Public Health and Emergency Management and Homeland Security will notify your office of the location of a regional distribution site close to your community, as well as its hours of operation. We are requesting that you send personnel to that location to receive your allocation of these resources for redistribution within your town. We will begin the distribution on November 17<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this program, its intent, or the process itself, please contact Jon Bergeson at the Connecticut Department of Public Health at (860) 509-8100.

Your cooperation in helping us to create a safer and healthier environment for all of our citizens in the face of this pandemic is greatly appreciated.