Springfield, Illinois – Thirty-seven Springfield firefighters are currently quarantined due to COVID-19 and from this number, 12 firefighters have tested positive. Among those who have tested positive is Springfield Fire Chief Allen Reyne.

The majority of firefighters came in to contact with an individual who was asymptomatic at an outside gathering, not on work time. The individual was not a Springfield firefighter. Since receiving test results, any employee who was in direct contact with patient zero or any firefighter who has tested positive, have been sent to have a COVID-19 test and asked to follow the guidance provided by the testing facility including quarantining.

The outbreak has had no impact on their operations other than an increase in overtime. There is a total of 214 sworn Springfield firefighters with the department.

“This has been an extreme challenge however, it is a lesson on how one person can impact one area of our community,” said Springfield Fire Chief Allen Reyne.

The City of Springfield would like to remind residents about the importance of wearing a mask, watching your social distance, and washing your hands. In addition, it is strongly discouraged to gather with anyone who lives outside your home. If you do, masks properly worn over your nose and mouth are necessary in order to slow and stop the spread of COVID-19.

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