



# DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Dale J Schmidt Sheriff Scott Mittelstadt Chief Deputy

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 29, 2019

Sheriff Dale J Schmidt

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### STAY OFF THE ROADS AND STAY INDOORS

The Dodge County Sheriff's Office is urging and respectfully requesting that all who are able stay off the roads and stay indoors starting this evening, Tuesday, January 29, 2019 through Thursday, January 31, 2019 while we are under a Wind Chill Warning. Sheriff Dale Schmidt has been in contact with Dodge County Highway Commissioner Brian Field regarding the deployment of highway trucks during these dangerous and potentially deadly conditions. As a result of the extreme weather, it is necessary for the highway department to limit their staff's exposure to the elements and to focus its efforts strictly on US and State Highways, along with major County Highways. Less traveled highways will likely not be able to be plowed and may drift shut as a result of the forecasted winds. Some roads may become impassable until weather conditions improve.

Please remember that road salt is vastly ineffective during these extreme cold temperatures and while sand is being used as they are able, there is only so much the highway department can do to improve road conditions during this extreme weather.

We ask that if you must travel, please stay on US and State Highways to the extent possible and avoid driving through drifts in hopes that no one becomes stranded in the road or slides into a ditch during these conditions. Also, please ensure you have a full tank of gas, proper clothing, and an emergency kit if you must go out. Squads will still be patrolling to provide assistance as necessary, but remember that if you become stranded, you also place them in danger as they come assist.

Sheriff Schmidt encourages businesses and organizations to consider closing operations and rescheduling events during this cold spell. It is our hope that we keep as many people as possible safely in their homes and off the roads during these dangerously frigid conditions. Please check on your family, friends, and neighbors as well to ensure they are safe over the next couple of days. Stay warm and stay safe!

Questions may be directed to Sheriff Dale J Schmidt.

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