



RICK STEPHENS
SHERIFF-CORONER

OFFICE OF
THE SHERIFF AND CORONER
FOR THE COUNTY OF ALPINE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

KEEPING THE PEACE SINCE 1864



TOM MINDER
UNDERSHERIFF

STATEMENT FROM SHERIFF RICK STEPHENS

March 30, 2020

Whether you agree or disagree with the current events happening in our world, we all must deal with them. Alpine County does not have the resources for an influx of second homeowners who want to come here and people recreating from areas affected by COVID-19.

There is almost nowhere to recreate. The National Forests are being shut down. Parking lots and restrooms are closed, along with stores and restaurants.

Please stay at home. Recreate in your backyard. Help us help you. If you don't, it will be even a longer time until we flatten the curve. Once that happens, we can go back to our normal lives.

Alpine County's demographics tend to be in the higher range for exposure to COVID-19.

I, myself, haven't seen my children or grandchildren in over 2 weeks. My staff is isolating themselves on their days off so that we may be here to serve you. Lately, they've had to respond to calls that were unnecessary due to visitors not following the advice given by the CDC and our local Public Health Officer. You will be putting my staff and their families in danger from unnecessary exposure.

Wash your hands, sanitize touched surfaces, avoid touching your face, and *stay home* unless absolutely necessary.

This too, shall pass.