



FEMA

US&R GENERAL MEMORANDUM – 2020-065a

December 22, 2020

FOR: National Urban Search & Rescue Response System
Task Force Representatives and Program Managers

FROM: Buddy Ey, Chief
Admin/Finance Section
Urban Search and Rescue Branch

SUBJECT: US&R General Memorandum 2020-065a – (Revised) BINAX COVID Test Kits – Request for Information and Prepare to Return

This revision includes an email address to return the completed spreadsheet to.

Each of the 28 National Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) Response System (the System) task forces recently received an email from the FEMA National White Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT) reference the BINAX COVID Test Kits that were distributed to them. The purpose of the email was a Request for Information (RFI) pertaining to the test kits and the task force receiving them. The body of the email is below for reference, there was also an attachment that has been included in this GM.

All Concerned,

NLT 12/23 1200, on the attached spreadsheet, please confirm your on-hand/unused quantities of BINAX COVID test kits and provide the weights & dimensions for the packaging you will use to return your quantities. We will be providing your respective locations with shipping labels to return your packages. Additionally, please confirm that your location addresses are correct.

Understand that some of your leadership have directed you to hold off on returning your BINAX COVID test kits for now; however, we still need the information requested above to cut Distribution Orders and create shipping labels. Thanks in advance.

Regards,

Christopher S. Calloway

Deputy Logistics Section Chief | National IMAT White | Operational Coordination Division | FOD

Return the completed spreadsheet to: chris.calloway@fema.dhs.gov

All System task forces are to comply with the RFI by the 12/23 date indicated. Further, it has been determined by FEMA senior leadership that all BINAX COVID test kits are to be returned. The request by some task forces to maintain the kits for local use was considered but has been denied by the FEMA Logistics Directorate for a number of reasons. There will be no cost to the task force to return the test kits; one purpose of the RFI is to capture the information needed for pre-paid shipping labels. All task forces should return the BINAX COVID test kits as soon as the shipping labels are received.



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Replacement kits with a longer shelf life are on order. Presently, the plan for the replacement BINAX COVID test kits is to store them at a FEMA Logistics Distribution Center. The US&R Branch continues to work with the FEMA Logistics Directorate in an attempt to get the replacement test kits delivered to System task force locations if possible. Additional information will be provided when it is known.

For any questions or concerns, please contact Buddy Ey at: elwood.ey-iii@fema.dhs.gov.

Attachment:

BINAX Test Kit DO with POC

cc:

US&R Strategic Group

US&R Advisory Group

US&R Branch Staff

FEMA Regional/Federal/International ESF #9 Representatives