

September 2009

Dear Suffolk Law Student:

As we begin the academic year, we want you to know that we are aware of the most up-to-date H1N1 Flu information and recommendations. This letter includes information you need to know about H1N1 Flu and the University's resources.

The H1N1Flu has the potential to cause more widespread illness than the seasonal Flu. Therefore, we request your cooperation in our efforts regarding prevention and control as we do our best to protect each member of the Suffolk University community, and undertake to comply with recommendations of federal, state and local health departments.

Please assist us in the following ways:

- **If you have flu or flu-like illness, you should not go to class, the library, or otherwise come to school until at least 24 hours after fever resolves (without the use of a fever reducing medicine), or 4 full days, whichever is longer.**
- **Report your absence directly to the Law School Dean of Students Office by email (lawdeanofstudents@suffolk.edu) or telephone (617-573-8157).**
- You should practice good hand hygiene by washing your hands with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hand cleaners also are effective when soap and water are not available.
- You should practice respiratory etiquette by covering your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have a tissue, you should cough or sneeze into your elbow or shoulder – not into your hands. You should avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth – germs are spread this way.
- You should know the signs and symptoms of the flu (visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/sick/htm) and consult with your health care provider if you are feeling ill.
- You should talk with your health care provider about whether you should be vaccinated for seasonal flu and the H1N1 flu. For more information about priority groups for vaccination, visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/acip.htm. If your home is close to Suffolk University and you wish to be vaccinated, you should make an appointment with your own primary care provider for vaccination and/or evaluation and treatment of illness. If you are unable to make an appointment with your own primary care provider, Suffolk will offer a seasonal flu shot clinic for students – visit www.suffolk.edu/flu for more information.
- Ask a family member or friend to be prepared to pick you up should you become ill. It is not advisable for symptomatic people to take public transportation. Remember that the campus is a densely populated area which increases risks and exposures. Appropriate cleaning products for your home can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/oppad001/influenza-disinfectants.html>.
- Contact Suffolk's Health and Wellness Services in advance of visiting the office if you are ill to help avoid unnecessary exposure to you or others or long waits. Health and Wellness Services may be reached at (617) 573-8260.
- Contact lawdeanofstudents@suffolk.edu for assistance if you are having difficulty resuming your coursework or if you need support from campus resources following your illness. A staff member from the Dean of Students Office will respond to your email.
- Keep your emergency contact information current so the University may contact you in the event of a school closure or other emergency. You may update your emergency contact information (if you have not already done so) by logging-on to Campus Cruiser, choose the "MY CRUISER" tab > MY PROFILE > then click on Emergency Contact Information.

Current recommendations from public health officials do not advise school closures. However, if this year's flu season becomes more severe, we may decide to suspend classes. This decision will be made together with state and local public health officials.

Please visit the University's Health and Wellness website at www.suffolk.edu/flu for the most current information and links to important websites.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy school year.

Laura Ferrari
Dean of Students
Suffolk University Law School