

## **Town of Thomaston** **Policy Statement**

This administration recognizes that communicable disease exposure is a potential health hazard. While each employee is ultimately responsible for his/her own health The Town of Thomaston recognizes a responsibility to provide as safe a workplace as possible. The goal of this program is to provide all employees with the proper protection and education in the area of communicable disease.

### **Definitions**

**Blood** means human blood, human blood components and products made from human blood

**Bloodborne Pathogens** means pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, hepatitis B virus (HBV) and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)

**Contaminated** means the presence or the reasonably anticipated presence of blood or other potentially infectious materials on an item or surface

**Decontaminated** means the use of physical or chemical means to remove, inactivate, or destroy bloodborne pathogens on a surface or item to the point where they are no longer capable of transmitting infectious particles and the surface or item is rendered safe for handling, use, or disposal

**Exposure Incident** means a specific eye, mouth, other mucous membrane, non-intact skin or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that result from the performance of an employees duties

**Occupational Exposure** means reasonably anticipated skin, eye, mucous membrane, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious material that may result from the performance or an employee's duties

**Parenteral** means piercing mucous membranes or the skin barrier through such events as needle sticks, human bites, cuts, and abrasions

## **Procedures**

- 1) Each employee shall, per OSHA requirements, attend annually a Bloodborne Pathogens training class.
- 2) Each employee shall be provided with a pair of rubber gloves to be used in the event an exposure situation should arise
- 3) The gloves shall be removed as per training session dictates and disposed of in a red disposal bag located on Level 2 in the Thomaston Police Department.
- 4) Broken glass should not be picked up with your hands but with a mechanical means, such as a brush & dustpan, tongs, or forceps.

