



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 05/08/2020

**Laclede County Health Department Announces
First Laboratory Confirmed Positive COVID-19 Case**

LACLEDE COUNTY, MO – The Laclede County Health Department has received notification of the first positive laboratory confirmed case of COVID-19 in Laclede County. We can confirm that this case was travel related, and due to close contact to a positive individual outside our county. Our agency will not be releasing personal information, to protect the individuals' identity. We are working with this individual to ensure they are following Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services (MoDHSS) and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) guidelines regarding quarantine/isolation.

The Laclede County Health Department is currently working with the MoDHSS to conduct an investigation in efforts to identify any individual(s) that may have been in close contact with the positive case. This is being done to monitor close contacts for symptoms and assist in the containment of the virus spread in our community.

Now more than ever, it is extremely important that every member of our community follows the CDC prevention measures. These include: proper and frequent hand-washing, cleaning frequently used surfaces, staying at home when you are sick, avoiding contact with people who are sick, coughing/sneezing into tissues, wearing a mask when in public, not gathering in large groups, and maintaining a six (6) foot distance between yourself and another person.

The Laclede County Health Department has, and will continue to diligently monitor the COVID-19 situation as it continues to evolve. Our continued goal is the safety and protection of our public.

We encourage anyone that suspects you have COVID-19, or have been in close contact with a potential case, to contact your healthcare provider by telephone for further directions.