



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 05/12/2020**

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

LACLEDE COUNTY, MO – The Laclede County Health Department has received notification of the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) positive laboratory confirmed case of COVID-19 in Laclede County. This third case is asymptomatic (not showing symptoms), was identified as a close contact to our previously reported case(s), and had testing done once notified of their close contact to positive case(s). 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.

Since this individual had been under quarantine, there have been no locations identified to announce for possible exposure to the public. A case investigation has been completed, identifying close contacts. Those close contacts have been instructed to quarantine for the required timeframe, monitor for symptoms of COVID-19, and/or receive testing. This is being done to assist in the containment of the virus spread in our community.

As our cases continue to grow, Laclede County residents are reminded of the extreme importance to follow the CDC prevention measures. These include: proper/frequent handwashing, 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. In the event you may be experiencing symptoms, it is recommended you contact your healthcare provider. Symptoms of COVID-19 can include: fever, cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell.

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.