



PETERSBURG BOROUGH, PETERSBURG MEDICAL CENTER

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE: COVID-19 | ONE PETERSBURG POSITIVE IDENTIFIED

Date: November 21, 2020 **2:00 pm**
From: Petersburg Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
Contact: Karl Hagerman, Petersburg Borough EOC Incident Commander
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For Immediate Release

One new case of COVID-19 has been identified for a Petersburg resident.

This person is a Petersburg resident that has been out of town for an extended period of time and remains outside of Petersburg. The case was identified as a result of the State of Alaska's Interstate Travel Testing Program and will show up on the State's case count as being a Petersburg resident. The person is isolating presently and will not travel to Petersburg until cleared by Public Health. There is no risk to Petersburg in relation to today's identified case.

Holiday travel can be derailed by a positive test. Traveling during the current COVID-19 surge in our nation and State can spread the virus to family and loved ones unintentionally. The CDC recommends that US Citizens do not travel for the holidays and instead find ways to celebrate without leaving their current living arrangements. However, if traveling, think about and plan for isolation and quarantine locations if you contract the virus at any point during your trip.

Please refer to the CDC webpage for information on symptoms and precautionary measures at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/.

Additional current information on COVID-19 is available through the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) at coronavirus.alaska.gov.

All residents must take action to mitigate the potential spread of this virus. If you are sick or suspect that you may be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, you should take steps to prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home and community. If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, such as fever, cough or difficulty breathing, call the Petersburg Medical Center COVID Hotline at 907-772-5788 for medical advice. Do not go to the hospital or clinic before calling the hotline.

If you are not sick, please continue to take precautionary measures to stay healthy:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, or cough or sneeze into your elbow.
- Clean frequently-touched surfaces and objects daily (e.g., tables, countertops, light switches, doorknobs, and cabinet handles) using a regular household detergent and water.
- Wear a mask when out in public when you cannot ensure six feet of social distancing as this could minimize the spread of COVID-19.
- Continue to socially distance. This means protecting you and your household members from getting sick. Avoid breaking your home bubble of protection.
- Monitor your health and that of your household members and call the COVID hotline with any questions.

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