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Craven County



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Amber Tabarrini
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Third COVID-19 Case Confirmed in Craven County

Craven County, NC – The third case of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) has been confirmed in a Craven County resident who was tested March 17, 2020. The individual who tested positive for COVID-19 is an adult who traveled out of state. This individual was tested by a private physician for COVID-19 and that test was sent to LabCorp. This confirmed case was reported to the Craven County Health Department on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 by state health officials. The individual has been symptom free since March 20, 2020 and is now considered a recovered case. Craven County public health officials have been in contact with this individual since notified of the positive test results this morning.

Craven County Health Department's Communicable Disease staff is working to conduct contact tracing to make sure everyone who came into close contact with this individual is quarantined. Close contact is anyone who was within six feet of the individual for 10 minutes or more. Contact tracing works by interviewing the individual to identify all places the person went while symptomatic and determining who the person came in close contact with. For example, identifying those individuals can include talking to employers to identify employees the person came in close contact with as well as looking at store and restaurant cash receipts to see customers the person may have come into close contact with. The Communicable Disease staff will make every effort to notify those they can identify who came into close contact with the person who tested positive and those individuals will be instructed to quarantine at home for 14 days.

Residents who feel they are symptomatic and in need of testing need to call ahead to their primary care physician to receive instructions for how to proceed. Anyone who is symptomatic should not just present at a medical provider's office without calling ahead first.

There are other upper respiratory illnesses present locally, the seasonal flu and it is allergy season which can also produce similar symptoms. There is no data to support that Craven County has community transmission, the three confirmed cases in Craven County are travel-related.

Craven County Government COVID-19 updates will appear on the Craven County website at www.cravencountync.gov, on the Craven County Facebook page [@cravencounty](https://www.facebook.com/cravencounty) and the Craven County Twitter account [@cravencountync](https://twitter.com/cravencountync). Residents are also encouraged to register to receive

notifications via the Craven County website and to register to receive emergency notifications via text, email and phone calls through the CodeRed Emergency Notification System.

For more information on COVID-19, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.html> and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health website at <https://ncdhhs.gov/coronavirus>.

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