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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Charles Stringham, MD
Humboldt County Health Officer
Phone: (775) 623-0550
Email: cs@charlesstringham.com

CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES IN HUMBOLDT COUNTY RISE TO SEVEN

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.— Humboldt County has been notified of two additional cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Winnemucca.

The first positive COVID-19 case in Humboldt County was confirmed on Thursday, March 26; since then, six more cases have been confirmed, bringing the county's total to seven.

Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, said earlier the cases clearly illustrate the highly contagious nature of COVID-19. "I want to emphasize the importance of following social distancing guidelines in order to control the spread of the virus," he said.

Dr. Stringham said he will continue to work with the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health to identify close contacts to prevent community spread of the disease.

A brief summary of each case follows, starting with the most recent confirmations:

- Case 7 – A woman in her 60s, known to be a close contact of a previously reported case.
- Case 6 – A man in his 70s, known to be a close contact of a previously reported case.
- Case 5 – A man in his 50s, known to be a close contact of a previously reported case.
- Case 4 – A man in his 50s, known to be a close contact of a previously reported case.
- Case 3 – A woman in her 40s, known to be a close contact of a previously reported case.
- Case 2 – A man in his 40s, known to be a close contact of a previously reported case.
- Case 1 – A man in his 40s with no recent travel history.

Dr. Stringham encouraged Humboldt County residents to limit movement outside the home to essential activities only.

"People at high risk, including people over 60, people with underlying health conditions, people with compromised immune systems, and pregnant women, should shelter in place now," he said.

Additionally, Dr. Stringham encouraged all residents to:

- Stay home to protect others.
- Put distance between yourself and others. Keep at least 6 feet between you and other people.
- Practice everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses:
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - Cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
 - Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Stay informed. The COVID-19 situation is changing frequently. Up-to-date information is available on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html.

Local residents who have mild fever, cough, or other respiratory symptoms should go to Humboldt General Hospital's West Campus screening clinic, located at 51 E. Haskell Street; the clinic is open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Senior residents should call the clinic first at (775) 623-5222, ext. 1379, so staff may direct their arrival.

Anyone who is experiencing severe respiratory distress should proceed immediately to the HGH Emergency Department. For complete guidance, please visit www.hghospital.org.

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