

Chair & County Health Officer,

Dr. Charles Stringham

Board Members,

Ken Tipton, County Commission Chair

Marlene Brissenden, County Commissioner

Jim French, County Commissioner

Ron Cerri, County Commissioner

Mike Bell, County Commissioner

Mike Allen, Humboldt County Sheriff

# Humboldt County Health Board

Humboldt County Courthouse  
50 West Fifth Street Room 205  
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445



March 31, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Nicole Maher, on behalf of  
Humboldt County Health Officer  
Phone: (775) 761-2624  
Email: nicole@winnemucca.net

## TOTAL CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES IN HUMBOLDT COUNTY NOW AT FIVE

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.—On Tuesday, March 31, Humboldt County was notified of two new cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Winnemucca.

The first positive COVID-19 case in Humboldt County was confirmed on Thursday, March 26; two additional cases were confirmed on Saturday, March 28. The two newest cases bring the county's total to five.

Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, said 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 any community spread of the disease. To protect the persons' identities, no further information about the cases will be released.

Dr. Stringham said all Humboldt County residents should assume that anyone they come into contact with could have COVID-19.

"Humboldt County residents should limit movement outside the home to essential activities only," he said. "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."

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.
  - Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

- 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](http://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](http://www.hghospital.org).

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