

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



April 13, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## HUMBOLDT COUNTY CONFIRMS FIRST COVID-19 DEATH

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.— Humboldt County has confirmed its first death due to COVID-19.

The individual was a male in his 40s who also was one of Humboldt County's previously confirmed cases. He was hospitalized at the time of his death.

Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD, said, "We extend our heartfelt sympathies to this individual's family and friends. We need to allow this tragedy to unite us as a community, rather than allowing it to drive us apart."

Dr. Stringham continued, "I am confident that each member of our community is learning more each week about what he or she can do to prevent further tragedies, and I invite all of us to come together in an attitude of helping and protecting those around us."

Dr. Stringham said his message to the community remains the same: "I am asking our community to accept my invitation to do the right things: to stay home to limit exposure, to wear a mask if going out in public is necessary, to respect social distancing, and to carefully wash their hands after handling any items."

He added, "If we can all do the right things, we can make strides toward preventing this kind of tragedy in the future."

Dr. Stringham reiterated:

- Stay home to limit exposure, and wear a mask if going out in public is necessary.
- Maintain 6 feet of distance from other people at all times.
- Wash 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 eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover coughs and sneezes 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).

Humboldt County has joined the Elko COVID-19 Hotline, which is available to direct residents with COVID-19 symptoms, and to answer questions. Local residents may call (775) 777-2507 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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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