



JACKSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

NEWS

FOR RELEASE: Immediately (5/26/20)

For more information contact:

618/684-3143

ONE NEW COVID-19 POSITIVE IN JACKSON COUNTY

Jackson County Health Department was notified in the past 24 hours of one Jackson County resident confirmed to have contracted COVID-19. The individual is a female in her fifties, believed to have acquired the disease through close contact with a known case. She is being placed in isolation.

Two previously reported Jackson County cases, both males, have been removed from the list of positives. These individuals were listed as positive following a rapid test used for those in hospital care. Subsequently, their specimens were analyzed using a more sophisticated lab process and the results were shown to be negative.

Therefore, to date, there have been 233 laboratory confirmed cases in Jackson County, including ten deaths related to the disease. Seven additional cases were released from isolation in accordance with CDC guidelines, bringing the total released to date to 178 individuals. Forty-five active cases are currently being managed.

COVID-19 shares many symptoms with more common respiratory diseases. If you have a fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, call your health care provider for further guidance. In addition, Southern Illinois Healthcare (SIH) has established a COVID-19 hotline at 1-844-988-7800, which is open 8am – 8pm. Clinicians there will answer questions, assess each caller and advise on next steps for evaluation or potential testing.

Sunday the State released the *“Phase 3 Guidelines for Reopening Business and Returning People to Work Safely”* at www2.illinois.gov/dceo. There are common guidelines listed for all types of businesses, plus industry specific guidance. The Southern Illinois Region, specified in the Restore Illinois plan, is on-track to move to Phase 3 on May 29. Jackson County Health Department recommends that businesses and organizations follow the guidance to help reduce the risk of their employees, customers and clients of contracting COVID-19.

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