



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **May 22, 2020**

**JOINT INFORMATION CENTER**  
(805) 696-1188  
[eocpiostaff@countyofsb.org](mailto:eocpiostaff@countyofsb.org)

### **SANTA BARBARA COUNTY ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL DEATH OF A PERSON WITH COVID-19**

**(SANTA BARBARA, Calif.)** -- Santa Barbara County Public Health Department (PHD) is reporting the twelfth death of an individual who tested positive for COVID-19. The individual resided in the City of Santa Maria and was in their 70s with underlying health conditions. As of today, there are 1,551 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Santa Barba County, 971 cases are at the Federal Prison in Lompoc and 580 are community cases and 463 have fully recovered. Today's total number of confirmed cases includes an update as a case reported previously was determined not to be a case.

"The loss of a loved one is devastating. We send our deepest sympathies to the friends and families of this community member. As we open businesses this long holiday weekend we must remember that this virus is still prevalent and active in our community. Please stay vigilant and continue to wear facial coverings while in public and practice social distancing," said Van Do-Reynoso, PhD, Director for the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department.

Although most cases of COVID-19 exhibit mild or moderate symptoms, PHD recommends additional measures to prevent exposure among vulnerable people, including the elderly and those with underlying health conditions (such as diabetes, cancer, immunodeficiency, asthma, COPD and others). PHD recommends that residents, especially those who are vulnerable:

- Stay home except for essential tasks. Ensure you have a two-week supply of medication on hand.
- When engaging in essential tasks away from home, remain 6 feet away from others and wear a facial covering.
- Wash your hands with soap and water regularly.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

For general questions about COVID-19 and precautions currently recommended by Santa Barbara County Public Health, residents may call the Santa Barba County call Center at (833)-688-5551. The Call Center is open weekdays (except for holidays) from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p. m. and on the weekends from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**-30-**

#### **Stay Connected:**

County Public Health: [www.PublicHealthSBC.org](http://www.PublicHealthSBC.org), [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)  
County of Santa Barbara: [www.CountyofSB.org](http://www.CountyofSB.org), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#)  
County Call Center: (833) 688-5551  
Recorded Information Line: (805) 681-4373  
2-1-1 Call Center: Dial 211 or outside the area, call (800) 400-1572  
Community Wellness Team Information and Referral Line: (805) 364-2750  
Behavioral Wellness Crisis Line: (888) 868-1649