FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Douglas County Health Dept Has Two New COVID-19 Cases**

The Douglas County Health Department (DCHD) announces TWO newly confirmed cases of COVID-19: a female in her thirties and a male in his eighties. Both known/confirmed cases are Douglas County residents and were confirmed positive for coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in the past 24 hours. DCHD officials are now attempting to identify and contact each of the individuals known to have been in close contact with each of these newly confirmed positive individuals.

Douglas County, IL now has #227 known confirmed cases & #5 COVID-19 Deaths.

*DCHD has confirmed 72 new cases of COVID-19 in Douglas County, in the past 14 days*

**YOU Can Help STOP THE SPREAD Of COVID-19 In Douglas County, IL**

1. **Wash**  →  Wash your hands for 20 seconds with soap, throughout each day.
2. **Watch**  →  Watch to keep 6ft of physical distance between yourself and others.
3. **Wear**  →  Wear a face cover/mask.

COVID-19 is often spread by asymptomatic carriers or pre-symptomatic carriers. This virus has a long incubation period (up to 14 days) giving a wide window of opportunity for people carrying the virus to infect others - many never knowing they’re infected but spreading the virus and infecting others. Carriers may be most contagious in the 48 hours before they get symptoms, making transmission even more likely and more widespread.

It's not just people who are sneezing and coughing spreading this virus. It's often people who look completely normal, don't have a fever and don’t know they are carrying the virus and spreading it to others. That could include you, me or anyone reading this press release. This makes it imperative for EVERYONE to wear a mask/ face-cover and physically distance 6 feet or more from others.

This virus spreads easily and often spreads from carriers who don’t even know they’re spreading it.

For State of Illinois COVID-19 data by County/Zip Code:
https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/covid19-statistics

For more COVID-19 information, test sites, guidance, please visit our website
http://dchealthdept.org/