



Public Health Division

County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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Press Release

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County Announces Third COVID-19 Death

The County of Santa Cruz regrets to announce that a third county resident has died after experiencing complications from COVID-19.

The patient was a male in his mid-90s who was undergoing hospice care. The method of transmission is under investigation, but is thought to be person to person from a close contact. The County would like to express its sincere condolences to the patient's friends and family.

"Our hearts go out to those whose lives were touched by this individual. We at County Public Health continue to do all we can to assure that these occasions are as few as possible, and want to remind everyone that COVID-19 remains a significant threat to all Santa Cruz County residents, but especially the elderly and medically vulnerable among us," Santa Cruz County Health Officer Gail Newel said.

The individual resided in Mid-County and passed away last week. COVID-19 was a significant contributing factor in his death, but not the primary cause. After consultation with State public health officials, the County is listing his death as COVID-19-related.

It has been more than two months since the County reported its last COVID-19 death. The County would like to thank residents for their commitment to public health and remind them that minding social distancing protocols – including maintaining physical distancing and wearing a face covering -- are more important than ever.

For local information on COVID-19, go to www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus, call 211 or text "COVID19" to 211211. Residents may also call (831) 454-4242 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.