Williams County Health District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Williams County Reports First Death Associated with Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Montpelier, OH – A Williams County resident who tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) has died.

"On behalf of the entire county, we express our deepest sympathies for the family and friends of the individual who has died," said Williams County Health Commissioner James D. Watkins. "This disease has affected our entire community and we are working tirelessly to slow the spread of this virus and minimize its impact." Out of respect for privacy of the individual and the individual's family, the Williams County Health Department will not be releasing any identifying information.

The death of a Williams County resident further emphasizes the need for physical or social distancing and careful compliance of Ohio's preventative orders to best protect our community and flatten the curve. Keeping Williams County safe is a matter of public responsibility. All Williams County residents have a role to play to reduce the impact of the disease.

"All Williams County residents must act responsibly as one community to protect our residents," urged James D. Watkins. "Please stay home and do not gather with friends and family who do not reside with you at this time. In order for us to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our communities, we must continue to practice physical or social distancing and stay home. These are not merely suggestions; we must do these actions to save lives."

The Williams County Health Department will continue to update cases on the WCHD website: http://www.williamscountyhealth.org/health-education/covid-19-coronavirus/.

This is a rapidly evolving situation. To ensure you are obtaining accurate information about COVID-19, please visit the Ohio Department of Health's website (https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/) for updates. If you have questions regarding Coronavirus/COVID-19 please call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

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