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## Press Release

## Macon County Reports Additional Death Related to COVID-19

Macon County Public Health received notification that one (1) Macon County resident, over seventy-five (75) years old, who was diagnosed with COVID-19 has passed away. To protect the family's privacy, no additional information will be released about this individual. This death brings Macon County to sixty-two (62) deaths related to COVID-19.

"We are extending our deepest sympathy to the family during this time," said Health Director, Kathy McGaha. McGaha continued, "Macon County residents can help protect themselves and others in our community by receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. Macon County Public Health has appointments available for the lifesaving vaccine for everyone who is 12 years old and older. The more individuals who get this vaccine, the more likely that we will stop seeing COVID-19 deaths."

Older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions may be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19; however, anyone of any age can become infected with this illness. Therefore, we ask that community members **strictly follow** the governor's recommendations and continue to practice **social distancing**, as well as safe hygiene measures such as hand washing and frequently cleaning touched objects and surfaces. Everyone who is eligible is encouraged to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, a safe and effective prevention tool.

If you believe that you may have COVID-19, please call the Health Department at 828-349-2081 to schedule an appointment for a test. To register and schedule an appointment to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, please call 828-349-2081.

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