



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Date: May 22, 2020  
To: All Media  
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**For Immediate Release**

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### **“Public Health Officials Announce a Death and New Cases of COVID-19; Total 133 Cases in LaSalle County”**

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) was notified of an additional novel coronavirus (COVID-19)-related death in LaSalle County, Illinois. The individual, a male in his 70’s, had earlier tested positive for COVID-19. There have been a total of ten COVID-19 related deaths in LaSalle County.

“It is with a heavy heart that we announce the additional loss of one of our LaSalle County residents to the COVID-19 virus. Our thoughts and deepest condolences go out to the family and friends who are mourning the loss of their loved ones.” LaSalle County Health Department Administrator Julie Kerestes said in a statement.

The LaSalle County Health Department (LCHD) has confirmed an additional three COVID-19 cases in LaSalle County bringing the total to 133 cases. The additional cases are:

- a male in his 20’s
- a female in her 40’s
- a female in her 50’s

The cases remain in isolation. Federal privacy restrictions prohibit the release of any additional information regarding these cases. Public health officials are working actively to identify and investigate all individuals who were in contact with the cases. No further information regarding the investigation is available at this time.

Five additional cases have recovered and have been released from isolation. The total number of recovered individuals for LaSalle County is 72.

As COVID-19 spreads and testing increases, we expect to see our cases increase. People should continue to practice social distancing and not let their guard down. The focus in our communities should not be whether you have been exposed but rather, assume you have been exposed and take measures to decrease the transmission to others. All LaSalle County residents are strongly encouraged to adhere to all of the required precautions necessary to protect their families and the community, to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The LaSalle County Health Department encourages residents to stay informed on the evolving situation. Get the latest guidance for school, employers and community preparedness by visiting [Preventing COVID-19 Spread in Communities](#) or by visiting the Health Department’s website at [www.lasallecounty.org](http://www.lasallecounty.org). For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

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