



## Stevens County Health Department

**NEWS RELEASE**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **First Fatality of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) identified in Stevens County, Kansas**

On September 17, 2020, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) confirmed the first known death of COVID-19 in Stevens County. The patient tested positive on August 28, 2020 and was admitted to the hospital on September 1, 2020. The patient had no known exposure to any positive case.

This marks the first death caused by the novel coronavirus in Stevens County. Contact investigations are ongoing and any identified close contacts have been quarantined and monitored for symptoms by the Stevens County Health Department Staff.

It is with deep sympathies we provide this report to the residents of Stevens County.

KDHE has released guidelines ([http://www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus/COVID-19\\_Resource\\_Center.htm](http://www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus/COVID-19_Resource_Center.htm)) for quarantine and isolation of travelers who visited locations in the United States where large numbers of people have contracted the disease.

If you are experiencing symptoms such as a fever, cough or difficulty breathing, call your healthcare provider immediately. Do not visit in-person prior to receiving confirmation from that healthcare provider. Please adhere to the following recommendations:

- Follow all recommendations regarding self-quarantine
- If you do need to go out in public, ensure you maintain six feet distance from other people.
- Wear mask when you are unable to maintain six feet distance from other people.

The Stevens County Health Department has worked closely on these decisions with numerous community partners, including Stevens County Commissioners, The Cities of Hugoton and Moscow, Stevens County Emergency Management, Hospital, School districts, and other local partners.

Stevens County residents can stay informed by visiting the Stevens County Health Department's Facebook page, [www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus](http://www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus) or <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>.

For general information, contact the KDHE phone bank at 1-866-534-3463 (1-866-KDHEINF) or email [COVID-19@ks.gov](mailto:COVID-19@ks.gov). You may also contact the County Health Department information line at (phone number) or email (email address).