



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: April 4, 2020

Media Contact: Meagan Utsey, Public Information Officer

Phone Numbers: **843-782-0502**

843-549-5632 (Emergency Operations Center)

E-Mail: mutsey@colletoncounty.org

NINE CASES OF COVID-19 IN COLLETON COUNTY, PUBLIC MEETINGS CANCELLED

Colleton County officials have been notified of nine total cases of COVID-19 in Colleton County. While DHEC has notified the County that five of these cases of COVID-19 are in the 29488 ZIP code, two of the cases is in the 29929 ZIP code and two of the cases are in the 29475 ZIP code, DHEC is not providing any additional information. The ZIP code data for the state is available on DHEC's COVID-19 webpage, specifically on the Testing & SC Data page, underneath the county map. This can be found by following the link below.

<https://www.scdhec.gov/infectious-diseases/viruses/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/monitoring-testing-covid-19>

It's important to note that there are likely many more people in the community who have this virus and have never been tested. Also, DHEC isn't notified when individuals are no longer infectious (i.e., they are well), and as a result, these numbers likely include people who have recovered and no longer pose a risk to others.

Colleton County residents are urged to follow the guidance of Governor McMaster and the recommendations of the CDC. This information can be accessed at colletoncounty.org/coronavirus.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

The April 7, 2020, Colleton County Council Meeting is cancelled due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Depending on the duration of the COVID-19 public health crisis, and to prevent the gathering of more than three people in which social distancing measures cannot be reliably observed, the Colleton County Council may conduct future meetings of Council by telephone or other electronic means. Future special or emergency meetings will be posted as required by state law.

The April 7, 2020, Walterboro City Council Meeting is cancelled due to COVID-19. Depending on the duration of the COVID-19 public health crisis, and to prevent the gathering of more than three people in which social distancing measures cannot be reliably observed, the City of Walterboro may conduct future meetings of Council by telephone or other electronic means.

In addition to the cancellation of the County Council meeting, all public meetings are cancelled for Colleton County government for the month of April.

SUMMARY OF GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS

Governor Henry McMaster's Executive Orders related to the COVID-19 Pandemic can be accessed by following the link below.

<https://governor.sc.gov/executive-branch/executive-orders>

REMINDERS AND HELPFUL LINKS

The chain of command and direction and control during a public health emergency is different than what is exercised during a natural or human-made disaster. The [South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control \(DHEC\)](#) is the lead agency. DHEC officials are working closely with our federal partners at the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#).

If you are concerned about the coronavirus (COVID-19) or experiencing respiratory or flu-like symptoms such as fever and/or cough, MUSC recommends you speak to an online virtual care provider. Virtual COVID-19 screenings are free. Just use the code COVID19 when you follow the link below and log in to MUSC's Telehealth service. No appointment is necessary, and this service also covers other conditions, such as allergy/hay fever, sinus infection, pink eye, sore throat, or the common cold. You can also call 843-261-5940 for more information.

<https://campaigns.muschealth.org/virtual-care/index.html>

For more information, please visit the links below.

- SCDHEC - <https://www.scdhec.gov/health/infectious-diseases/viruses/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>
- John Hopkins Center Global Tracker – <https://gisanddata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>
- CDC - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- WHO - <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>
- Colleton County Government – <https://www.colletoncounty.org/Coronavirus>

Should you have any questions, please visit Colleton County Fire-Rescue's Emergency Management Division webpage at www.colletonfire.com. Colleton County Fire-Rescue's Emergency Management Division and all of our Emergency Support Function partners have been collaborating for several days now and will continue to monitor COVID-19.