



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Town of Morristown provides update after confirmed Coronavirus Case at Headquarters Plaza

There was a sign posted at Headquarters Plaza, located at 1 Headquarters Plaza, alerting building tenants and visitors of a confirmed case of COVID-19. Please note that the Town of Morristown in conjunction with state and county health officials, monitors and assesses situations using Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) recommendations on infection control and prevention. Public health officials were already aware of the situation and determined there to be no risk to the public based on a comprehensive public health investigation.

As the situation evolves, I want to assure our residents that community spread of COVID-19 is not occurring in the Town of Morristown at this time. The Town Health Division continues to maintain open lines of communication with the public to ensure they have access to the most recent information on COVID-19). There are a number of tools that residents and business owners can use to stay informed, and simple everyday actions to stay healthy.

New Jersey Poison Information and Education System (NJPIES) opened a COVID-19 Information Hotline to assist in answering questions from the general public. Residents should contact the call center at 1-800-222-1222 or 1-800-962-1253 if in NJ but using a non-NJ cell phone. The call center operates 24/7 and can accommodate calls in multiple languages. Clinicians should contact their local health department for guidance.

While community spread has been observed in other parts of the country, the Town of Morristown advises residents the risk of infection to the general public remains low. Current CDC guidance indicates that risk of exposure to the virus remains highest for healthcare workers caring for patients with COVID-19, close contacts for persons with COVID-19, and travelers returning from areas with sustained community spread.

Residents and business owners are reminded to take simple steps to protect themselves and others from respiratory illness:

- Stay home if you are sick.
- Adopt work from home policies or flexible work hours.
- Avoid crowded public places (shopping centers, movie theaters, stadiums) and mass gatherings.
- Maintain distance (about 6 feet) from others when possible.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Avoid handshakes. Try an elbow bump.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. If you do not have a tissue, use your sleeve (not your hand).
- Get a flu shot to prevent the flu if you have not done so this season.

On Monday, January 16, 2020, Governor Murphy made recommendations to protect our state against community spread of 2019 novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). With interventions aimed at closing schools, gyms, performing arts center, restricting retail food establishments from table service and curfews for non-essential retail entities, these measures will assist our public health system in combatting the public health hazard posed by COVID-19. As testing becomes available, numbers of confirmed COVID-19 cases will increase throughout the state. It is of the utmost importance that residents and businesses adhere to Governor Murphy's social mitigation strategies and recommendations of our Town Health Division.

Please visit the Town of Morristown website at www.townofmorristown.org to stay informed. Additional information can also be found on NJ Department of Health's website at <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml> and CDC at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/index.html>. For more information, residents are encouraged to contact the NJ COVID-19 Call Center at 1-800-222-1222 or 1-800-962-1253 if calling from a non-NJ cell phone.