## CLEVELAND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH CENTER

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## **Cleveland County Reports Sixth Death Related to COVID-19**

SHELBY, NC – The Cleveland County Health Department is sad to report the sixth death associated with COVID-19 in Cleveland County.

The individual, who passed on July 5, 2020, was over the age of sixty-five (65) and had multiple underlying health conditions. To protect the family's privacy, no further information about this individual will be released.

"I am deeply saddened to share another Cleveland County resident has passed from COVID-19," Cleveland County Health Director Tiffany Hansen said. "My thoughts and prayers are with this individual's family. This has been a very tough couple of weeks for our community with four COVID-related deaths within the past two weeks."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), among COVID-19 cases, the most common underlying health conditions are cardiovascular disease (32%), diabetes (30%), and chronic lung disease (18%). Hospitalizations are six (6) times higher and deaths twelve (12) times higher among those with reported underlying conditions compared with those with none reported.

"Although most people experience mild to moderate symptoms, COVID-19 can result in severe disease including hospitalization, admission to an intensive care unit, and death; especially among older adults and those with underlying health conditions," Cleveland County Deputy Health Director DeShay Oliver said. "Everyone can take actions such as wearing a cloth face covering, waiting six feet apart, and washing their hands to help slow the spread of COVID-19 and protect those at higher risk from severe illness. By taking these simple steps, we can play an important role and fulfill a civic duty to protect our community."

As of today, there have been a total of three hundred ninety-three (393) confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Cleveland County. Of these, ninety-two (92) are currently active, and two hundred ninety-five (295) have completed their isolation period and recovered.

To view the Cleveland County COVID-19 case count update on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, visit www.clevelandcounty.com, click on "County Departments," select "Health Department," and then click on "Coronavirus Information." You can also receive COVID-19 updates by following the Cleveland County Health Department's Facebook page @clevelandcountyhealthdepartment.

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