



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 24, 2020

HOLLISTON – At a March 23 meeting of the Select Board, Fire Chief and Emergency Management Director Michael Cassidy confirmed the first positive case of COVID-19 in the community. Cassidy indicated that the Holliston Board of Health was notified of the test result, and that Salmon VNA & Hospice, the town's nursing consultant, was monitoring the resident. Salmon VNA updated Health Director Scott Moles that the resident who tested positive for the coronavirus currently has no influenza-like symptoms, has been in quarantine, and is expected be released from quarantine within the week; in accordance with Centers for Disease Control and Massachusetts Department of Public Health guidelines.

Cassidy noted that Salmon VNA is also monitoring a second Holliston resident, who had previously been in contact with a separate COVID-19 positive individual outside of Holliston. That resident also currently has no influenza-like symptoms, is in voluntary self-quarantine, and is being tested for the coronavirus.

The Town of Holliston, its Board of Health, and Salmon VNA will continue to complete the investigations for each case received, to limit exposure and spread of the disease in the community. The Board of Health strongly urges residents to comply with Governor Baker's stay at home advisory, and follow preventive actions to prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including avoiding contact with those who are ill; frequent hand washing; avoid touching one's eyes, nose, and mouth; clean and sanitize high touch areas; and stay at home if ill.

The Health Department will update and share new information with the community, as necessary, regarding the coronavirus situation. For up to date information, residents are encouraged to check the town website (www.townofholliston.us), the state website (www.mass.gov/covid19) or the CDC website (www.cdc.gov/covid19).

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