JOINT MEDIA RELEASE: COVID-19 | ONE NEW POSITIVE CASE

Date: May 15, 2021   5:00 pm
From: Petersburg Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
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For Immediate Release

One new case of COVID-19 has been reported by the Petersburg Medical Center. The person, a non-resident, traveled to Petersburg earlier in the week and tested at the airport upon arrival. The results came back positive after they had already traveled on to Juneau, where they will plan to isolate. Contact tracing is underway.

Please do not be complacent about COVID mitigations. Maintaining good masking, good hand hygiene, proper social distancing and avoidance of crowds are all still VERY important measures to keeping our school in session, businesses open and Borough departments operating as normal.

If traveling, take measures to protect yourself and family members from infection by following protocols that we all know about. Wearing face coverings, washing hands often, using hand sanitizer, avoiding large crowds and testing when arriving back in Petersburg are all important to keeping yourself and your community infection free.

Testing is free for all travelers at the James A. Johnson Airport, regardless of residency.   Testing is strongly recommended for all travelers and is <u>required </u>for anyone who is not fully vaccinated upon arrival in Petersburg from out of state. Testing of travelers is highly important to reveal previously unknown infections so that isolation can begin right away and spread of the virus to the community can be avoided. Follow up testing, 5-14 days after arrival, is equally important to discover an infection that was not fully developed for your date-of-travel test. All follow up testing at the airport is free with a voucher from the State Safe Travels system.

All residents must take action to mitigate the potential spread of this virus. If you are sick or suspect that you may be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, you should take steps to prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home and community. If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, such as fever, cough or difficulty breathing, call the Petersburg Medical Center COVID Hotline at 907-772-5788 for medical advice. Do not go to the hospital or clinic before calling the hotline.

PETERSBURG MEDICAL CENTER COVID HOTLINE 907-772-5788

If you are identified as a close contact to a known positive COVID-19 case, please follow all medical direction for quarantine and testing. This is extremely important to stopping the spread of the coronavirus.

For detailed information on COVID in Petersburg, including a link to the Petersburg COVID Dashboard, visit https://www.psgcovidinfo.net/

Please refer to the CDC webpage for information on symptoms and precautionary measures at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/.

Additional current information on COVID-19 is available through the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) at coronavirus.alaska.gov.

PETERSBURG COVID-19 ALERT LEVEL ① LOW

| Face covering where social distancing can not be maintained | 6 feet must be maintained with people outside of the household | Follow State Health Orders for travel & local intrastate travel mandate | Gatherings of 50+ outdoors 25+ indoors not recommended without strict adherence to safety measures | Businesses 100% open with allowance of telework for high-risk employees |

PETERSBURG EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER   WWW.PSGCOVIDINFO.NET

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