

First COVID-19 Related Death Reported in Kern County

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Kern County, CA – Kern County Public Health Services Department has received confirmation of the first COVID-19 related death in a Kern County resident. There have been 34 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Kern County residents and one in a non-resident.

“We offer our deepest condolences to the family and are saddened by this,” says Matt Constantine, Director of Kern County Public Health Services. “This is a tragic reminder of how serious COVID-19 can be and we encourage all residents to stay at home and practice social distancing when going out for essential services.”

Kern County Public Health Services recommends the following protective measures:

- Stay at home except for essential needs.
- Wash hands with soap and water often.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. Follow package instructions for proper disinfecting.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or your elbow.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay away from work, school or other people if you become sick.
- Those 65 and older or other high risk groups should self-isolate.

Kern County Public Health continues to work with local health care providers and has plans in place to inform and protect all residents, limit exposures to any new cases if identified, and address concerns as they arise. Visit www.kernpublichealth.com for current information and guidance.

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