

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 24, 2020

Department of Health Provides Update on COVID-19, 207 New Positives Bring Statewide Total to 851

Harrisburg, PA- The Pennsylvania Department of Health today confirmed as of 12:00 a.m., March 24, that there are 207 additional positive cases of COVID-19, and four new deaths, bringing the statewide total to 851 in 40 counties. County-specific information and a statewide map are available <u>here</u>. All people are either in isolation at home or being treated at the hospital.

"Our notable increase in cases over the past few days indicate we need everyone to take COVID-19 seriously," Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine said. "Pennsylvanians have a very important job right now: stay calm, stay home and stay safe. We have seen case counts continue to increase and the best way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is to stay home."

Statewide, there are 851 cases of COVID-19 reported from commercial, hospital and state labs. There are 8,643 patients who have tested negative, and seven total deaths. With commercial labs being the primary testing option for most Pennsylvanians, data is not available on the total number of tests pending.

Statewide – The Wolf Administration has announced since noon, yesterday, March 23:

- Released business closure order enforcement data from Pennsylvania State Police.
- Issued stay-at-home order for seven counties beginning 8 p.m., March 23.

For the latest information for individuals, families, businesses and schools, visit "Responding to COVID-19" on pa.gov.

The Wolf Administration stresses the role Pennsylvanians play in helping to reduce the spread of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Cover any coughs or sneezes with your elbow, not your hands.
- Clean surfaces frequently.
- Stay home to avoid spreading COVID-19, especially if you are unwell.

Updated Coronavirus Links: Press Releases, State Lab Photos, Graphics

• For the daily COVID-19 Report, visit here.

- For all press releases regarding coronavirus, please visit here.
- Find the latest information on the coronavirus here.
- Photos of the state's lab in Exton are available for download and use here.
- Coronavirus and preparedness graphics are available here near the bottom of the page: <u>here</u>
- Community preparedness and procedures materials are available here.
- For an updated map with the number of cases, visit here.

All Pennsylvania residents are encouraged to sign up for AlertPA, a text notification system for health, weather, and other important alerts like COVID-19 updates from commonwealth agencies. Residents can sign up online atwww.ready.pa.gov/BeInformed/Signup-For-Alerts.

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