FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE CONTACT: Kim Comerzan,
Health Officer/Director : 734-240-7804

MONROE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Monroe County Health Department Reports Second COVID-19 Case

Monroe, Mich. March 18, 2020 – The County of Monroe continues to respond to the National Emergency Declaration and the State of Michigan's statewide state of emergency response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Emergency response plan for public health has been activated and acted upon.

Second presumptive positive (COVID-19 Case)-

The Monroe County Health Department (MCHD) has received the county's second presumptive positive case of coronavirus disease (COVID-19). The individual is an adult female with history of domestic travel. The lab test was conducted at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) laboratory and the results released by MDHHS. The specimen is being sent to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for confirmation.

The individual is isolated in her home and is in stable condition. The MCHD has been working closely with the individual to identify and contact others who may have been potentially exposed.

The MCHD continues to encourage the public to be diligent in its efforts to reduce the spread of germs and protect everyone's health. Prevention measures include:

- **Washing your hands often. Scrub with soap for at least 20 seconds.**
- **Avoiding close contact with people who are sick.**
- **Staying home when you are sick, except to seek medical attention when necessary. If you are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 (see below), call ahead to your primary care physician for instruction on how to proceed.**
- **Routinely cleaning and disinfecting frequently-touched surfaces.**
- **Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then discard. Immediately wash your hands.**
- **Limiting attendance at large gatherings or community events.**

"We must work together as a community to implement the recommended mitigation and prevention strategies to slow the potential spread of the illness," said Ms. Kim Comerzan, Health Officer at the Monroe County Health Department. "There currently is no vaccine for COVID-19, so the best way to prevent illness is to avoid exposure to it," she added. "Furthermore, we highly encourage Monroe County residents to gather information from reliable sources, such as the MDHHS and the CDC. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has a hotline available and the number is provided below."

COVID-19 symptoms may appear in as few as two (2) days or as long as fourteen (14) days after exposure to the virus. Symptoms include fever, cough and shortness of breath.

Reputable resources for COVID-19 updates can be found at:
www.michigan.gov/coronavirus and www.cdc.gov/COVID19.

Monroe County Health Department COVID-19 hotline number:
1-734-243-8600, 8:30 A.M.-4:30 P.M. Monday-Friday