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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STATE MASK MANDATE REMAINS; HUMBOLDT COUNTY REPORTS FIVE NEW CASES

WINNEMUCCA, Nev.— While Nevada has relaxed many COVID-19 mitigation measures, the mask mandate remains in effect; Governor Steve Sisolak has not indicated when that will be retired.

Late last week, however, the governor did issue a directive amending his mask mandates following updated guidance from the CDC. The updated guidance allows people to go without masks in crowdless outdoor settings. Fully vaccinated people also do not need to wear masks while indoors with unvaccinated people of any age from one other household.

But the CDC—and the state—left in place the guidance to don a mask at indoor public places and at crowded outdoor events. The Transportation Security Administration also has extended face mask requirements through mid-September for travel by air, bus or train.

“And with good reason,” said Humboldt County Health Officer Charles Stringham, MD. “Facial coverings are one of the most powerful weapons we have to slow and stop the spread of the virus — particularly when used universally within a community setting.”

Dr. Stringham said mask recommendations have been met with some skepticism among the public over the past year, but scientific evidence continues to show that masks do work.

“Unfortunately, there’s the occasional fake news article or disreputable study that claims to show otherwise,” said Dr. Stringham, “and we have a segment of our society who jump on that to try to prove that masks don’t work.”

“But the simple truth is that masks do work,” continued Dr. Stringham, “and we need to continue to wear masks in public until we know the danger has passed.”

Governor Sisolak signed the latest emergency directive Monday, May 3. The directive includes language that allows Nevada’s mask mandate to automatically update with any future guidance from the CDC.

Fully vaccinated individuals are classified as those two weeks out from either their second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines or the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

Humboldt County has been notified of five more positive cases of COVID-19, raising the overall total to

1178. In all, the county has 1155 recovered cases and 10 active cases. No COVID-19 patients are currently hospitalized locally and 13 county residents have died.

Based on available information, close contacts of the newest Humboldt County cases are being notified and are following self-isolation procedures to prevent community spread of the virus.

Brief summary information of Humboldt County's latest cases follows:

Case #	Gender	Age Range	Contact	Status
1178	Man	20s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
1177	Woman	60s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
1176	Man	40s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
1175	Man	70s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating
1174	Man	50s	Investigation in progress	Self-isolating

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Humboldt County:

- Wear a mask around anyone not of the same household.
- Maintain 6 feet of distance from non-household members at all times.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Self-isolate following a known exposure, or while waiting for COVID-19 results.
- Stay informed. The COVID-19 situation is changing frequently. Up-to-date information is available on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [website](#).

COVID-19 testing locations in Humboldt County include:

- **Humboldt General Hospital Screening Clinic** - Offers drive-thru screening for asymptomatic persons from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (closed from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch), and by-appointment screening with a provider for symptomatic persons from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Wednesday (closed from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch; call 775-623-5222, ext. 1379 to schedule an appointment). Located at 51 E. Haskell Street, across from Humboldt General Hospital.
- **Golden Valley Medical Center** - Private clinic serving Nevada Gold Mines offers screening for asymptomatic and symptomatic persons. Call (775) 625-4653 for an appointment.
- **Ridley's Pharmacy** - Offers in-vehicle, self-administered asymptomatic and symptomatic testing. Go [here](#) and follow the prompts to schedule an appointment.
- **HGH Emergency Department** - Those who experience severe COVID-like symptoms should go directly to the HGH Emergency Department, which is open 24 hours a day, or call 9-1-1 for emergency assistance.

Local COVID-19 information is available in Spanish [@CovidEspanol](#). Humboldt County COVID-19 updates and information are available in English at [@HumboldtCountyNV](#), at www.hcnv.us and at [The Humboldt County Report](#).

Humboldt County has established a COVID-19 vaccine recorded information line in both English and Spanish. Call (775) 375-3200 to hear the latest about vaccine allocations, local distribution opportunities and changes as they occur. The line is updated with new information every Monday and Thursday (not

including holidays), or as needed. Information is also available by emailing vaccine@humboldtcountynv.gov.

Humboldt County has a supply of personal protective equipment, including facial masks and hand sanitizer, available to local businesses. To request supplies, businesses should call the Humboldt County Comptroller's office at (775) 623-6467.

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