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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Second Portage County COVID Related Death Reported

Portage County Division of Public Health is confirming the second death in Portage County associated with the novel coronavirus infection (COVID-19). The individual had underlying health conditions, according to Scott Rifleman, Portage County Medical Examiner.

“We are saddened by the loss of another community member. I, along with our community, extend our sympathies to their loved ones,” says Gary Garske, Health Officer and Division of Public Health Manager at Portage County Health and Human Services.

To date, 667 people in Portage County have been diagnosed with COVID-19, and there have been 1,146 deaths in Wisconsin.

COVID-19 can cause serious health complications and death, especially among older adults and people with chronic health conditions, that’s why it’s important that we all work together to prevent the spread of illness. It is also important to remember that COVID-19 can be spread by those who are not experiencing symptoms.

“We strongly encourage community members to continue following Executive Order #1 Masking Mandate by wearing a mask in public and keep at least six feet apart when you leave your home. In doing so, you’re not only helping protect yourself, but also your family, friends, neighbors, and fellow community members,” says Garske.

For more Portage County data, visit the dashboard at this link: <https://bit.ly/3bmQOjD>

If you have questions or would like additional guidance, please call or email our department at (715) 345-5907 or PCPublicHealth@co.portage.wi.us

If you have general COVID-19 questions, call 2-1-1 or text your zip code to 898211 Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

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