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March 9, 2020

Aloha HIDOD employees:

Information, activities, and protocols related to the recent COVID-19 Corona Virus outbreak are rapidly changing and dynamic. However, it is important that all of you have accurate information to keep you and your families informed and protected.

To date there have two reported COVID-19 presumptive cases on Oahu. Both of these cases were imported from outside of the state and the State of Hawaii, Department of Health has not reported any community based transmission of COVID-19.

On March 6, 2020, the State of Hawaii, Department of Health reported Hawaii's first presumptive COVID-19 case. The individual was on the Grand Princess Cruise ship that disembarked in Mexico between 15-18 February 2020. The individual later flew from Mexico to Hawaii. Following his return the patient became symptomatic and isolated himself in his home on Oahu.

On March 8, 2020 the second presumptive positive case was identified. The individual recently returned from a trip to Seattle, Washington.

Since the start of the COVID-19 outbreak in China, our department supported a multi-agency joint information center to keep the news media informed about local developments on COVID-19. Additionally, the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency and Hawaii National Guard have been assisting the State's Department of Health, the Lead State Agency, with planning and monitoring.

Rather than rattle off things that you and your families should do, this letter provides authoritative website links where you will find the most recent information. However, one practice that is crucial in spreading severe respiratory diseases is that if you become symptomatic with flu-like, or severe cold symptoms please stay home.

The following links provide useful information:

State Department of Health Updates:

<https://health.hawaii.gov/news/covid-19-updates/>

<https://health.hawaii.gov/docd/advisories/novel-coronavirus-2019/>



**National Travel Advisories:**

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html/>

<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices>

**Johns Hopkins Global Cases:**

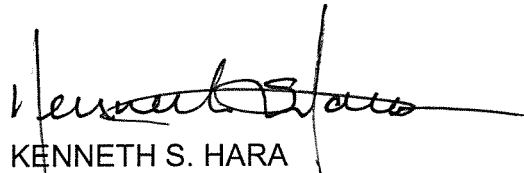
<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>

**CDC Updates:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/>

Along with this letter, our department's Human Resources Offices will provide additional information. The department will strive to keep all of you informed of critical developments, or policy changes in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. But as mentioned above, information is continuously changing so the best way to keep informed is by visiting the authoritative websites listed above.

Thank you for everything that you do for this department and the State of Hawaii. As with any other disaster, the state and nation are depending on our department to enable safety, security, and prosperity.



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