



## CITY OF UNALASKA

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[www.ci.unalaska.ak.us/citymanager/page/coronavirus-covid-19](http://www.ci.unalaska.ak.us/citymanager/page/coronavirus-covid-19)

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## NEWS RELEASE

**March 23, 2020, 1:00 pm, News Release no. 13**

### **Coronavirus COVID-19**

**LOCAL RISK FACTOR: High.** Based on the City's Guidelines for Social Distancing, the local risk factor is now high based on confirmed community spread of the virus in Anchorage. The City has already implemented the corresponding high risk Social Distancing Measures.

**CITY OF UNALASKA COVID-19 CASE COUNT:** There are no confirmed cases in Unalaska.

Patients tested by IFHS	4
Confirmed Negative Tests	3
Confirmed Positive Tests	0
Pending Test Results	1

**STATE OF ALASKA COVID-19 CASE COUNT:** The State DHSS issued a press release on Sunday, March 22, announcing 10 new cases, bringing the total cases in the State of Alaska to **32**. A copy of the news release is attached. Starting today, the state will update case counts on their website at 5pm each day.

**SOCIAL DISTANCING:** The importance of maintaining a 6' distance between yourself and others cannot be overemphasized! Droplets from coughs & sneezes spread infection! Stay six feet away from other people and don't congregate in groups.

**KUCB RADIO CALL IN SHOW:** KUCB will host a Q & A session with Dr. Murray Buttner from the IFHS Clinic tomorrow, Tuesday, March 24 at 8:15 a.m. Questions about COVID-19 can be emailed to [info@kucb.org](mailto:info@kucb.org) and will be answered on air. Tune in to the show at radio channel 89.7 and listen in.

**SAFeway SHOPPING HOURS FOR THOSE AT RISK:** To help protect at-risk members of the community while shopping for groceries, Safeway has reserved the hours of 7am to 9am on Tuesdays and Thursdays for them. You are asked to avoid shopping during those times so that the store is available to senior citizens and other at-risk members of our community. The senior citizen discount will be allowed during both shopping sessions each week, as well as on Mondays.

**UNALASKA ART HUNT:** Here's a great activity suggestion sponsored by the Aleutian Arts Council – The Great Unalaska Art Hunt. Remember to maintain six-foot social distancing outside your family unit! Register on Facebook at:

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/aleutianarts/events/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/aleutianarts/events/?ref=page_internal)

Or by email to [Unalaskapuzzlemasters@yahoo.com](mailto:Unalaskapuzzlemasters@yahoo.com)

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Adam Crum  
Commissioner

dhss.alaska.gov



Department of Health  
and Social Services

Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Clinton Bennett, DHSS, (907) 269-4996, [clinton.bennett@alaska.gov](mailto:clinton.bennett@alaska.gov)

### **Ten new cases of COVID-19 detected in three Alaska communities**

March 22, 2020 ANCHORAGE — The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services today announced 10 new cases of COVID-19 in three Alaska communities – Anchorage (7), the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (2) and Juneau (1).

All cases were in adults; none were hospitalized. All of these persons are isolating themselves at home and their close contacts are being asked to self-quarantine for 14 days and monitor for symptoms. One of the Anchorage cases had recent travel outside of Alaska. The remaining cases are not known to be travel-related at this time. The Section of Epidemiology is continuing to investigate these cases in cooperation with Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, the Anchorage Health Department and local public health nurses.

“At least two of the new Anchorage cases that we are investigating have no clearly identified contact with a confirmed case,” said Dr. Joe McLaughlin, Alaska’s State Epidemiologist. “This indicates that community transmission of COVID-19 appears to be occurring in the Anchorage area.”

Travelers arriving from anywhere outside of Alaska should self-quarantine for 14 days, per the [March 20<sup>th</sup> Alaska Health Alert](#). Find more information about how to keep yourself and your family healthy at [coronavirus.alaska.gov](http://coronavirus.alaska.gov).

*Please note on March 23, 2020, DHSS will be shifting to provide daily case count updates on our website later in the day as most laboratory reports are being reported in the afternoon. Thank you.*

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