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43 Raven Way • P. O. Box 610 Unalaska, Alaska 99685

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NEWS RELEASE

July 6, 2020, 2:00pm, News Release no. 92 Coronavirus COVID-19

LOCAL RISK FACTOR: Medium

UNALASKA COVID-19 CASE COUNT (through Sunday, July 5, 2020):

COVID-19 tests performed locally	735
Cumulative positive persons	9

STATE OF ALASKA COVID-19 CASE COUNT (Alaska Residents):

Cumulative total cases	1,166
Recovered cases	552
Cumulative hospitalizations	74
Deaths	16

THE IMPORTANCE OF COVID-19 PROTECTIVE MEASURES: Over the holiday weekend, the Alaska Marine Highway System reported that a passenger tested positive for COVID-19. Contact tracing determined that the only close contact was the person's traveling companion and that they both followed face covering and social distancing protocols while on board. It is unknown when and where the passenger became infected, or when the passenger became contagious. The passenger had a negative COVID-19 test before departing from Bellingham on June 27.

Testing is a helpful tool for diagnosing COVID-19, but is not perfect. For example, people often will not test positive for several days after they are initially infected. So even if someone has a recent negative test, they can be asymptomatic or have only mild symptoms and still be infected.

This is a good reminder of the importance of COVID-19 protective measures! Please continue to wash your hands often, wear a covering over nose and mouth in public and stay six feet from non-household members.