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Press Release

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Update on COVID-19 in Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Pine Bluff, Arkansas (March 11, 2020) - The City of Pine Bluff has recently been informed that a patient has tested positive for COVID-19 at Jefferson Regional earlier this morning. The case is designated a presumptive positive at this time, which means the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is currently investigating to confirm the accuracy of the test result.

The city is now working with officials from the federal government, the State of Arkansas, Jefferson County, and Jefferson Regional to monitor the situation. Protecting the health and safety of the public is our greatest priority. The community should adhere to specific safeguards from the CDC and healthcare professionals to reduce the spread of germs:

- Cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue, and discard the tissue after use.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces with cleaning wipes or spray.
- Wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds on a regular basis.
- Stay home when you are sick, except if you must leave to seek medical attention.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Refrain from hugging and shaking hands.
- Refrain from touching door handles. Use sleeves if possible.
- Avoid all out of state travel.

The CDC has listed fever, cough, and shortness of breath as symptoms of COVID-19. The public is encouraged to not panic. However, if members of the public exhibit symptoms and would like to be tested, they should contact their healthcare providers, who will be able to share specific instructions on COVID-19 testing. For general information, the public should contact the Arkansas Department of Health's Call Center at 1-800-803-7847 or visit the CDC website at www.cdc.gov.

Please direct all inquiries regarding the city's public safety response to COVID-19 to the Pine Bluff Police Department at 870-730-2080