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# TOWN OF KINGSTON

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*Board of Selectmen*

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Advisory #20

Thursday, April 2, 2020

To the Residents of Kingston,

This afternoon the Massachusetts Department of Public Health announced that there were 621 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Plymouth County. This represents an increase from 561 cases yesterday. **The Town of Kingston remains at nine confirmed positive cases of COVID-19.** Our Health Agent and Public Safety Officers will continue to monitor these local cases. Due to privacy requirements, the demographics of these cases will remain anonymous.

Please continue to visit [www.kingstonmass.org](http://www.kingstonmass.org) for daily updates from Kingston's Emergency Management Team, as well as links to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) websites.

Kingston's Emergency Management Team met today to discuss the Town's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As some of you may have heard, there was a request for emergency medical services yesterday that resulted in a possible exposure to COVID-19. Five members of the Kingston Fire Department and two members of the Kingston Police Department responded to the call. Acting in an abundance of caution, Chief Douglass and Chief Splaine treated the possible exposure as a confirmed exposure until the results of the patient's COVID-19 test came back. As a result, all those who responded were quarantined, and all equipment and vehicles were disinfected.

This afternoon we received confirmation that the patient tested negative for COVID-19. All seven of our first responders have been cleared to return to duty.

Paula Rossi-Clapp reported to the Emergency Management Team that earlier today a 92-year-old resident shared that she had received a call from two people from the Kingston Council on Aging. When the resident shared the individuals' names, it became evident that they were not staff members at the COA. Both individuals had previously contacted the COA offering to volunteer, and were informed that at this time the COA was adequately staffed to respond to the needs of Kingston's seniors, but they would be contacted in the future if additional support was needed. Paula shared her concerns that some residents are representing themselves as COA staff, or are at least being perceived by some of Kingston's seniors as COA staff.

As a reminder to all Kingston seniors, if you receive a call from someone saying they are from the Council on Aging and you do not recognize the caller or phone number, please hang up and call the COA at 781-585-0511 to confirm that it is indeed the COA who is offering the service. Do not give out any personal information or your address without confirming first that the call came from the COA. At this time only

COA staff and reassigned Town employees are representing the COA. All Council on Aging staff who are working in the community have been given an ID tag stating that they are with the COA. Staff have also been properly vetted, trained, and given clear safety protocols to follow, to support Kingston seniors during this ongoing public health crisis.

During today's meeting Arthur Boyle, Kingston's Health Agent, reminded us all that this virus doesn't discriminate. As of today at 4:00 PM, Massachusetts Department of Public Health has reported the following number of confirmed positive cases by age:

19 years of age and under: 185  
20 – 29 years of age: 1378  
30 – 39 years of age: 1533  
40 – 49 years of age: 1465  
50 – 59 years of age: 1733  
60 – 69 years of age: 1246  
70 years of age and older: 1424

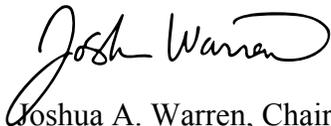
Tomorrow at 10:30 AM, Kingston will air a LIVE COVID-19 Update on PACTV. This program will be shown live at [www.pactv.org](http://www.pactv.org) and on Kingston's government channels (Comcast 15 and Verizon). The program will be focused on mental health and wellbeing.

With confirmed cases of COVID-19 on the rise, Kingston's Emergency Management Team and Board of Health would like to remind you that this is a crucial time for infection control. Maintaining social distancing, limiting exposure to others, avoiding crowded places, and vigilant hand washing are vital steps in slowing the spread of this disease.

Efforts to respond to and contain COVID-19 are rapidly changing, but our priority is to serve and support Kingston residents, employees, and businesses through the continuity of basic services and operations. We acknowledge that COVID-19 will significantly impact the lives of all those in our community, but we ask that you take a thoughtful and measured approach to keeping yourselves, your families, and your neighbors safe by following the news and recommendations made by the Center for Disease Control and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

We are all in this together.

Sincerely,



Joshua A. Warren, Chairman  
Board of Selectmen