



**ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT**  
**PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE**

ALisa Casas, Communications Director  
SMCG TV 95 Station Manager  
Media Inquiries: 301-475-4200 ext. 71342 or [pio@stmarysmd.com](mailto:pio@stmarysmd.com)

**COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY**

James R. Guy, President  
Eric Colvin, Commissioner  
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner  
Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner  
John E. O'Connor, Commissioner

**NEWS RELEASE** *for Immediate Release*

**No. 2020 – COVID-19 14**  
**March 21, 2020, 9:50 a.m.**

**St. Mary's County Health Department Announces Washington D.C. Resident Who  
Works in St. Mary's County Tests Positive for COVID-19**

**LEONARDTOWN, MD** – This morning, St. Mary's County Health Department made the following public announcement:

“St. Mary's County Health Department (SMCHD) has been notified that a Washington, D.C. resident who works at MedStar St. Mary's Hospital in St. Mary's County has tested positive for the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). **While this will not be classified as a St. Mary's County case**, the St. Mary's County Health Department will conduct a public health investigation in coordination with the Washington D.C. Health Department and the Maryland Department of Health.

The individual is a woman in her 40s who is isolating in her D.C. home, is currently symptomatic, and is being monitored by the Washington D.C. Health Department.

“We are in the process of identifying potential risks to St. Mary's County residents,” said Dr. Meena Brewster, St. Mary's County Health Officer. “Our Infectious Disease team will directly contact individual community members who may have been exposed to coordinate any needed testing and monitoring for symptoms. If at any point in our investigation we feel that there was risk of broader community exposure, we will notify the public.”

SMCHD urges community members to continue infection prevention measures and [social distancing](#) such as avoiding groups of 10 or more persons and keeping at least six feet away from ill persons. If you are sick, stay home and away from others. If you need medical attention, call ahead to your primary care doctor or health care facility, or use 9-1-1 if in a medical emergency. For local COVID-19 updates and information, please visit [www.smchd.org/coronavirus](http://www.smchd.org/coronavirus).”

In partnership with St. Mary's County Health Department, St. Mary's County Government has established a COVID-19 Community Hotline. Residents can call 301-475-4911 for questions

regarding county government operations and the St. Mary's County response to COVID-19. The call center is open Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

St. Mary's County Government will continue to follow all guidelines and orders from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the White House, and Governor Hogan's executive order issued March 19, 2020 prohibiting social gatherings of more than 10 people and social distancing.

Commissioner President Guy stated, "I'd like to reassure St. Mary's County citizens that we are working hard to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our community. We will continue to follow all necessary precautions to limit the spread of COVID-19."

In accordance with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidance and Governor Hogan's executive order issued March 19, 2020 prohibiting social gatherings of more than 10 people, St. Mary's County Government is currently offering appointments to reduce walk-in traffic and the exposure to social contact. A limited number of onsite appointments are available through the online appointment request portal. Appointment requests should be made through county department websites or, for the complete list of department appointments visit:

<https://www.stmarysmd.com/Appointments>.

For matters not requiring an appointment, please contact all St. Mary's County departments by phone at 301-475-4200 with requests for information or services.

For information on additional St. Mary's County Government COVID-19 response efforts, please visit [www.stmarysmd.com](http://www.stmarysmd.com)

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