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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 22, 2020

County mourns loss of emergency responder

Member of Emergency Medical Services team passes away

WINDSOR, N.C. – Bertie County Emergency Services received notification here today that a current EMS employee has passed away.

In a statement released on June 30th, the County announced that a second EMS employee had tested positive for COVID-19. The County can confirm that the employee referenced in that release is also the employee who has passed away.

All post testing and medical clearances were received for the employee to return to work after being quarantined for more than two (2) weeks. At this time, the cause of death has not been confirmed as coronavirus related.

"We are heartbroken to hear of this loss, and we send our thoughts and prayers to the family as they work through this difficult time." Emergency Services Director, Mitch Cooper said today.

"Our EMS and law enforcement have really endured this pandemic on the front lines, and we are deeply saddened to hear that we have lost one of our own. Our condolences are with our EMS staff as they mourn the loss of their colleague." Chairman Ron Wesson said.

For the most up to date information about the Coronavirus, please visit CDC.org, NCDHHS.gov, as well as follow all respective social media accounts including the official Facebook page for Bertie County Government. Media inquiries may be relayed to Emergency Services Director, Mitch Cooper, at 794-5302 or <u>mitch.cooper@bertie.nc.gov</u>.

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