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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 19, 2020

Emergency Medical Services employee tests positive for COVID-19

Patient in isolation at home; Commissioners express gratitude to County personnel

WINDSOR, N.C. – County Manager Juan Vaughan, II has confirmed that one (1) Emergency Medical Services employee has tested positive for the novel coronavirus also known as COVID-19.

The employee was considered high risk for exposure due to their job duties, and is doing well in isolation at home. The employee has not been to work since May 7th, and began to experience symptoms synonymous with COVID-19 on May 16th including body aches and chills which prompted the employee to seek testing.

Since testing positive, the employee has also experienced loss of smell and taste, as well as persistent cough and occasional runny nose.

“The safety and privacy of our staff is one of our top priorities. We are working collaboratively with Bertie County Emergency Services and our local healthcare partner, Albemarle Regional Health Services, to ensure the continued health of our staff and our citizens,” Mr. Vaughan added today.

“We were prepared for this possibility and as a Board, we are incredibly grateful to our staff for their hard work and dedication during such uncertain times. Our thoughts and prayers are with this employee, as well as with all of those still stricken with this virus,” Chairman Ronald Wesson said today.

For the most up to date information about the Coronavirus, please visit [CDC.org](https://www.cdc.org), [NCDHHS.gov](https://www.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 mitch.cooper@bertie.nc.gov.

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