

Upper Merion Township Public Information Office
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COVID-19 Patient Upper Merion Township

KING OF PRUSSIA, PA (March 9, 2020) – Upper Merion Township has been taking the threat of Coronavirus (COVID-19) very seriously. Our Township emergency responders have been working under enhanced protocols for several weeks now. Included in those protocols was the wearing of proper personal protective equipment when responding to calls that could be related to COVID-19. Early Saturday morning Police and EMS responded to one such call in the Township for a patient who was exhibiting symptoms associated with COVID-19. Our staff was properly protected and they transported the patient to Paoli Hospital. The patient was subsequently transported to the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Earlier today the Montgomery County Department of Health notified us that the patient did have a presumptive positive test for COVID-19. We subsequently learned that the patient is a doctor at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, at their King of Prussia Specialty Care site.

As of now the Montgomery County Department of Health is in the process of “contact tracing” all contacts that this patient may have had since being infected and Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia is notifying all patients, families and staff who may have come in contact with the doctor. Upper Merion Township continues to coordinate our response to this situation with the Montgomery County Department of Health and we are continuing to follow the guidelines recommended by the Center for Disease Control (CDC). We suggest that all Upper Merion residents do the same. This includes staying home if you feel sick, washing your hands for at least 20 seconds, cleaning surfaces frequently, and covering coughs or sneezes. Contact your healthcare provider if you are experiencing a fever, cough, or shortness of breath. Please visit the Montgomery County website at www.montcopa.org and click on the Coronavirus button for updated information, fact sheets, and resources.

While we know that this case will obviously raise the concerns of our residents, please know that the entire staff of Upper Merion Township continues to work to prevent the spread of this virus, mitigate the current situation caused by the resident who is presumed to be infected and plan for the recovery process as we move forward. As of now there is no community spread of the disease in Upper Merion Township. We will continue to keep the lines of communication open with other community stakeholders. We are urging all residents to remain calm, follow the suggestions of the CDC and refrain from posting or spreading unsubstantiated information that may increase anxiety in the community.

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