



## NEWS RELEASE

### Public Health

**CONTACT:**

Lana Culp  
Public Health Information Officer  
(909) 387-9147  
[Lana.Culp@dph.sbcounty.gov](mailto:Lana.Culp@dph.sbcounty.gov)

February 5, 2020

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## County continues to monitor novel coronavirus; reports no local cases

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The San Bernardino County Department of Public Health is working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the California Department of Public Health to respond to recent reports of a novel (new) coronavirus. There have been 11 cases reported in the United States, six of these in California. No cases have been reported in San Bernardino County.

“There have been no confirmed coronavirus cases in San Bernardino County to date,” states Dr. Erin Gustafson, San Bernardino County Assistant Health Officer. “County Public Health continues to work closely with state and federal partners to gather as much information as possible about this virus and prepare to respond. At this time, we urge the public to remain calm, as the health risk to the general public in our county continues to remain low. California state and local health officials are actively engaged in ensuring our residents remain safe and healthy.”

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that circulate mostly among animals, including camels, cats and bats. Common symptoms in an infected human include a fever, cough and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.

As with any virus, especially during the flu season, there are a number of steps you can take to protect your health and those around you:

- Washing hands with soap and water.
- Avoiding touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick are all ways to reduce the risk of infection with a number of different viruses.
- If someone does become sick with respiratory symptoms like fever and cough, they should stay away from work, school or other people to avoid spreading illness.

To learn more about coronavirus, visit the Communicable Disease Section’s Emerging Diseases webpage at [wp.sbcounty.gov/dph/programs/cds/emerging-diseases](http://wp.sbcounty.gov/dph/programs/cds/emerging-diseases) or call 800-722-4794.

