



COLUMBIA COUNTY CORONER'S OFFICE



Jeremy R. Reese, Coroner

PO Box 380

Bloomsburg PA, 17815

Office Phone 570-458-4499

Email coroner@columbiapa.org

MEDIA RELEASE

Contact: Jeremy Reese-Columbia County Coroner

Media Contact Information: Email coroner@columbiapa.org

Date: 05/29/2020

For Immediate Release

Re: Columbia County COVID Fatality Update

Columbia County Coroner Jeremy Reese is releasing the following statement regarding the deaths associated with COVID 19 reported within Columbia County to the Coroner's Office.

Line 1	Number of Deaths In Columbia County reported by PA DOH on 05/29/2020	31
Line 2	Number of New COVID Positive Deaths Reported to Columbia County Coroner since 05/22/2020	1
Line 3	Total Number of COVID Positive Deaths Reported to Columbia County Coroner to Date	21

Definition of Statistics:

Line 1: PA Department of Health Number of Deaths for Columbia County released daily by the PA DOH. This includes Columbia County residents who died within the County and Columbia County residents who died at locations outside of the County but reside within Columbia County.

Line 2: New deaths occurring within the geographical jurisdiction of the Columbia County that have been referred to the Columbia County Coroner for review and/or reporting since the prior public release of information. This number does not reflect Columbia County residents who died outside of the County.

Line 3: Total number of deaths occurring within the geographical jurisdiction of the Columbia County that have been referred to the Columbia Coroner for review and/or reporting. This number includes the number of cases in Line 2 in addition to previously reported cases to my office. This number does not reflect Columbia County residents who died outside of the County.

Summary of New Cases:

A 101 year old Female who died on May 23rd 2020, at the Gardens at Orangeville. The decedent had multiple other co-morbid diagnoses which contributed to her death along with the onset of COVID 19.

Additional Comments or Information:

This week the Department of Health for the first time, provided me with some of their death data for Columbia County to compare and as a result I have also increased the number of cases reported by my office by an additional case. The death of an 84 year old hospice patient, in April, which when reported to my office was undetermined if it would be classified as COVID related for the Department of Health, was in fact determined by the Department of Health to be COVID related. This person was suffering from a terminal illness which caused his death but COVID 19 was a contributing factor in the death of the deceased per the physician certifying the death

Moving forward I will be comparing reports of COVID deaths reported to my office to reports of COVID deaths reported to the Department of Health once per week. This should help to align some of the death reporting data moving forward.