



Town of North Reading
Massachusetts

Letter to North Reading from

Town Administrator Michael Gilleberto and Director of Public Health Robert Bracey

April 3, 2020

We are writing to regretfully inform the community of the first COVID-19-related death of a North Reading resident. The deceased resident met the criteria for a higher risk of severe illness as defined by the Centers for Disease Control. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of the deceased, and out of respect for the family no further information will be released by the Town.

This death is a tragic reminder of how dangerous this virus can be. It is critically important for us as a community to follow social distancing guidelines: **stay home to the greatest extent possible, when you do leave your home maintain a distance of at least six feet from others, do not gather in a group, and wash your hands often.** These are the most powerful tools we each have available to us to not only protect ourselves, but to prevent the spread of the virus to others in our community.

As of today, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health has notified the Town of North Reading of 30 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in North Reading. Seven cases have recovered, and the Health Department continues to monitor 22 cases. Updates on cases, along with other important information, will continue to be available on the Town website at www.northreadingma.gov. Information is also available by calling the Town Hall COVID-19 hotline at 978-357-5300 and leaving a message if there is no immediate answer.

Along with the Public Safety Director, Board of Health, Select Board, and other Town officials, we will continue to take steps to keep the community safe and informed. We will continue to update the community as to the number and status of cases in North Reading on Tuesdays and Fridays. Thank you for your attention, and please take the recommended precautions to stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Michael P. Gilleberto
Town Administrator

Robert F. Bracey
Director of Public Health