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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Taney County Health Department Updates COVID-19 Death Numbers  
September 21, 2020**

The Taney County Health Department (TCHD) is saddened to confirm the total number of deaths of Taney County Residents due to COVID-19 is now 28. Several of these deaths date back to mid-August and are being announced after an exhaustive reconciliation of death certificate data between TCHD and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (MODHSS) and following review and confirmation by the Taney County Coroner's Office.

In an effort to assure the release of accurate information, this announcement has been delayed until all three entities could confirm that the deceased were residents of Taney County and the cause of death was COVID-19. The staff of the TCHD have been working diligently with MODHSS and the Taney County Coroner's office to confirm this information with all organizations.

"TCHD prides itself on releasing accurate information. Sometimes it takes a little while for the correct documentation to catch up with all parties involved, which is what we have seen happen here," states Lisa Marshall, Director of the Taney County Health Department. "Ultimately, our goal is to share correct and credible information with our community as quickly as we can confirm its authenticity."

Our condolences go out to all who have lost loved ones due to COVID-19. TCHD continues to encourage the community to stay diligent about preventive measures such as hand hygiene, staying home when sick, disinfection of commonly touched surfaces, physical distancing, and face covering usage.

For more information contact the Taney County Health Department at 417-334-4544, visit our website at [www.taneycohealth.org](http://www.taneycohealth.org), or like our FaceBook, Instagram and Pinterest pages.

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The Taney County Health Department envisions a community of healthy people. Every day, we work to achieve this vision through leadership, collaboration, education and service. We value integrity, learning, teamwork, positive communication, quality improvement and dedicated service. Please visit our website <http://www.taneycohealth.org> to learn more about our services.