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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Taney County Health Department Announces Potential High-Risk Community Exposures
September 22, 2020**

The Taney County Health Department is notifying the public of a potential high-risk exposure to COVID-19 at the God and Country Theater, September 9 through September 21, 2020.

The TCHD releases information on community exposures when COVID-19 case investigators are unable to identify or obtain contact information for all individuals that may have been exposed in a high-risk setting.

Risk levels for exposure vary based on four main factors:

Enclosed spaces

- Enclosed rooms and spaces allow COVID-19 to accumulate on surfaces and in the environment

Duration of interaction

- Spending more than 15 minutes near a COVID-19 positive individual within a 24-hour period increases risk
- Physically touching an individual, such as with a hug, handshake, or kiss also puts an individual at high risk

Absence of social distancing

- Crowds or other social settings increase the likelihood of coming within 6 feet of an individual with COVID-19

Forceful exhalation

- Activities such as coughing, sneezing, yelling, or singing increases the distance COVID-19 is expelled from the body and can project it beyond six feet

Individuals within six feet of a COVID-19 positive individual for 15 minutes or more, or those that came into physical contact such as with a hug or a handshake, are considered close contacts and should quarantine from others in order to stop the spread of COVID-19. If you suspect you may have been exposed at the location listed above, please contact the Taney County Health Department where an investigator with knowledge of the case can assess your risk.

If you were at the locations listed above, please monitor for symptoms. Promptly notify your healthcare provider for further guidance if symptoms develop.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- New loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Headache
- Fatigue

- Fever or chills
- Muscle or body aches
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Taney County Health department is asking that everyone wear a face covering or mask, follow social distancing guidelines and stay home if you are sick.

For more information contact the Taney County Health Department at 417-334-4544, visit our website at 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.