

April 7, 2020

A City of Birmingham employee has tested positive for COVID-19. While on the job, the employee did not work in close proximity with any members of the public.

The employee had been away from work since March 27 and called in sick on March 30. On March 30, the employee went to the doctor. On April 3, the doctor told the employee that the employee could return to work on April 7. The employee returned to work on April 7 with a medical work release. Then, while the employee was at work today, the doctor called the employee and told the employee the employee had positive test result for COVID-19.

The employee then notified their supervisor, who notified HR. The employee was told to go home and to self-quarantine today. It's been determined that the employee was in direct contact with other co-workers and a supervisor, who were notified and sent home today. Testing has been arranged for the co-workers and supervisor. The employee's work area will be sanitized and deep cleaned.

Protective equipment was provided for employees.

"We extend our best wishes to this employee during their recovery," said Rick Journey, director of communications for the City of Birmingham. "Rest assured that the City of Birmingham is not only in frequent contact with the employee, our teams have also taken proper steps to notify co-workers and sanitize all work areas the employee may have encountered. We are evaluating any employees the employee may have had contact with in this case. Also, employee safety remains a priority as we seek to maintain city services for residents."

The City is following the guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as they relate to the report of the positive test result. The City will work to receive regular updates on the employee's status.

Recommendation for self-quarantine has been given to the co-workers the employees has been in close contact with in this case. To the city's knowledge, none of those employees have shown symptoms of COVID-19. The City will continue to maintain contact and offer support of the employees in this case.

During this time, all City employees are strongly encouraged to limit travel, to practice social distancing and to constantly wash their hands for at least 20 seconds.

Thank you,