



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **SCOTT COUNTY REQUESTS INDIANA STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONDUCT COVID-19 TESTING AT LOCAL BUSINESS**

SCOTTSBURG — The Scott County Health Department (SCHD) has requested assistance from the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) to conduct COVID-19 testing at a local business where cases have been confirmed.

SCHD has asked for ISDH strike teams to do employee testing at Morgan Foods. The testing will be conducted on Tuesday, May 5th. It is predicted over 700 employees will be tested on this day. Due to patient privacy laws, media will not be allowed to photograph patients being tested.

“The health and safety of our community is our top priority,” said Scott County Health Officer Kevin Rogers, M.D. “By testing all employees at the facility, we can identify the best ways to reduce the risk of infection in Scott County and help them protect their employees.” Morgan Foods, the SCHD, and the ISDH have been collaborating and extremely cooperative in protecting employees.

As of May 1st, Scott County had reported 48 cases of COVID-19 county-wide, including two deaths (neither of which were associated with this employer), according to data reported by ISDH. No information about specific patients will be provided due to privacy laws.

SCHD has been providing daily updates on their website and social media platforms to keep the community informed and up-to-date of current guidance and education involving COVID-19.

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness caused by a novel, or new, coronavirus that has not been previously identified. It is not the same as the type of coronavirus that causes the common cold.

COVID-19 is most commonly spread from an infected person to others through:

- Respiratory droplets released into the air by coughing and sneezing;
- Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands;
- Touching an object or surface with the virus on it, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes before washing your hands; and
- Rarely, fecal contamination.
- According to the US Food and Drug Administration, there is currently no evidence of food or food packaging being associated with transmission of COVID-19.

While many people who acquire COVID-19 will have mild symptoms, older individuals and those with underlying medical conditions are at higher risk for severe illness.

The best ways to protect yourself are to wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, avoid touching your face with unwashed hands, avoid close contact with people who are sick, stay home when you're sick, cover your cough or sneeze and clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.