



Public Health Division

# County of Santa Cruz

## HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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**For Release: Immediately**

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## 216<sup>th</sup> COVID-19 DEATH

**Santa Cruz County, Calif.** –Santa Cruz County Public Health regrets to announce another death as a result of COVID-19.

The individual was a fully vaccinated Caucasian male in his early-90s with several underlying medical conditions who passed away October 2nd. The infection was likely to be community-acquired.

This death is the 216<sup>th</sup> in Santa Cruz County attributable to COVID-19. The County offers its condolences to families of these individuals.

The Delta Variant is easily spread from person to person leading to almost all new cases being community acquired, where the source of the infection isn't known. Vaccination continues to be the best tool to stop the spread of COVID-19. Eligible unvaccinated residents are encouraged to get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible. Visit [www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirusvaccine](http://www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirusvaccine) or [www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirusvacuna](http://www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirusvacuna) for information on obtaining a free vaccine. Individuals interested in having a vaccine delivered to their home may fill out the homebound vaccine form, accessible at <https://tinyurl.com/yzz3thj9>. Vaccination greatly reduces the risk of hospitalization and death, and reduces the risk of passing the virus on to others.

Individuals who are immunocompromised or have underlying medical conditions are encouraged to get an additional dose or booster of COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible. In addition, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that those who are immunocompromised continue to follow current prevention measures including wearing a mask, staying 6 feet apart from others they don't live with and avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces regardless of vaccination status to protect themselves against COVID-19.

For local information on COVID-19, go to [www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus](http://www.santacruzhealth.org/coronavirus) or call (831) 454-4242 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

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