

KS reports first COVID-19 death

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Kansas health officials announced Thursday that the state has seen its first COVID-19 death, a man in his 70s who lived in a nursing home in the Kansas City, Kansas area.

The man's case was the fifth confirmed coronavirus case in the state. Three other cases involving men age 35-65 also were announced Thursday.

Lee Norman, the state's secretary of health and environment, said the man died at a local hospital Wednesday after being admitted with heart problems, Norman said. Gov. Laura Kelly declared a state of emergency so that the state can better free up resources.

Mary Beverly, the interim director of the Johnson County Health Department, earlier on Thursday said the three latest confirmed Kansas cases are men who all attended a conference in Florida.

Beverly says the men did not have symptoms until after they returned from the conference and they are not seriously ill.

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