

For Immediate Release March 11, 2020 Contact: Wyndham Kemsley (505) 720-5691

## **Cancellations at Expo New Mexico**

As you likely know, today we have confirmation of the first cases of novel coronavirus (COVID – 19) in New Mexico. While this is not a cause for panic, it does require that we take measured steps to try to prevent a widespread outbreak.

From what we know, while the vast majority of individuals who get the virus have mild illness, it is dangerous for those individuals who are elderly and/or immunocompromised. For those individuals, we have been advised by medical experts, that we must employ common sense mitigation strategies.

With this in mind and under the direction of Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, we will be canceling or postponing all events hosted by EXPO New Mexico for the month of March. We understand this has unfortunate implications but believe that it is more important to mitigate any risks at this time. For those communities that have been able to slow the widespread progression of the virus, their success has been based on limiting crowd interactions.

First and foremost, we want to be good partners in ensuring the health and safety of our fellow New Mexicans, and therefore are canceling these events consistent with Governor Lujan Grisham's direction, the Department of Health and the CDC.

For more information regarding Governor Lujan Grisham's Public Health Emergency declaration and up-to-date information regarding COVID-19 in New Mexico, please visit the websites below.

https://www.governor.state.nm.us/2020/03/11/updated-governor-department-of-healthannounce-first-positive-covid-19-cases-in-new-mexico/

http://cv.nmhealth.org/