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Press Release For Immediate Release

WISCASSET -- In response to the spread of the COVID-19 Coronavirus and confirmed cases within Lincoln County, the Lincoln County Commissioners have taken steps to protect employees and constituents. Effective March 17, 2020, the Lincoln County Courthouse Offices will remain operational, but in-person access will be restricted. These restrictions will be in place until further notice.

The offices affected are the Probate Court and Registry Office, the District Attorney's Office, the Registry of Deeds and the Administrative Offices. Employees will continue to process mail and online filings and answer phones. A drop box is available to visitors at the front entrance for any in-person deliveries.

Calls, emails and electronic filing will still be allowed at the Lincoln County Probate Court. The phone number for the Probate Office is 207-882-7392. Further contact information is available at www.lincolncountymaine.me and electronic access to their records can be found at www.maineprobate.net.

Members of the public having business with the District Attorney's Office in Wiscasset should call in advance. The phone number for the District Attorney's Office is 207-882-7312. Further contact information is available at www.lincolncountymaine.me/district-attorney.

The Lincoln County Registry of Deeds Office is closed to the general public, but is accepting electronic recordings. The Registry also has a drop-box for paper recordings. The phone number for the Registry is 207-882-7431. Further contact information is available at www.lincolncountymaine.me and electronic records can be found at www.lincolncountymaine.me/deeds.

The Emergency Management Agency will be operating the Emergency Operations Center on a virtual platform that is accessible to all local EMA Directors and all Lincoln County Public Safety Agencies. They can be reached at 207-882-7559.

The Superior and District Court Clerk's Office remains accessible to the public. Visitors are instructed to leave bags and purses in their vehicles to limit Courthouse Security's exposure to personal belongings. They can be reached at 207-882-7517.

Access to the Lincoln County Regional Communications Center and the Sheriff's Office is restricted to employees only.

The Lincoln County Regional Planning Office staff will be working remotely until further notice. Contact information is available at www.lcrpc.org.

Lincoln County Recycling will continue to collect materials at local transfer stations. Access to their facility is restricted to employees only.

Lincoln County Commissioners and staff encourage members of the public to follow guidelines laid out in <u>Governor Mills's Civil Emergency Proclamation</u> to protect yourself and practice strict social distancing measures to prevent the spread of the disease. Regular updates on the state of the disease can be found at the <u>Maine Center for Disease Control</u> and <u>United States Center for Disease Control</u>.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and thank the community for their support in helping to keep our County staff healthy through this challenging time. We look forward to returning to normal operations in the near future.