



NEWS RELEASE . FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 4, 2020

## **Oklahoma County residents should celebrate Labor Day carefully** ***OCCHD encourages residents to continue taking COVID-19 precautions***

(Oklahoma City) – The Oklahoma City-County Health department urges residents to be mindful this holiday weekend to protect themselves from being exposed to COVID-19, and that celebrating Labor Day during a global pandemic is a time for enhanced health and safety precautions.

“Any time you have a gathering of people there is an increased risk of spreading COVID-19, and you increase your likelihood of being exposed when you are with others outside of your household” said LT Knighten, public information officer for OCCHD.

OCCHD recognizes individuals will have the urge to gather with friends and family this weekend, however the agency encourages everyone to do so carefully, by wearing a mask, washing hands frequently and keeping adequate distance from others outside of your household as much as possible.

OCCHD notes there was an increase in positive COVID-19 cases following the Memorial Day and July 4 holiday weekends. The agency stresses residents should be mindful and recognize the virus hasn't gone away and it certainly doesn't take a day off, not even for a holiday.

Additional Labor Day safety measures, including food safety and mosquito prevention tips can be found on the OCCHD website. Epidemiological investigations, including case notification and contact tracing, will continue to rapidly respond to confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the community on Labor Day. COVID-19 tests can be scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 8 by visiting [testokc.com](http://testokc.com).

### ***About Oklahoma City-County Health Department***

*Established in 1910, Oklahoma City-County Health Department (OCCHD) is committed to protecting health, promoting wellness, and preventing disease to ensure a healthy future for the Oklahoma County-area community. OCCHD was one of the first public health departments in the nation to receive accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board. For more information, please visit [www.occhd.org](http://www.occhd.org).*