

WEEKLY COVID-19 CASE UPDATE (July 8, 2020) – Four Port Authority employees have tested positive for COVID-19 since last week’s update, bringing the total number of cases to 21.

Three employees tested positive on Saturday, July 4. One employee tested positive on Wednesday, July 8. All four are at home recovering.

Case #18 is a mechanic who works out of a Port Authority facility at South Hills Junction. They last worked on June 30 and has been in a medically directed self-quarantine since that time.

Case #19 is a bus operator who works out of Port Authority’s East Liberty garage. They last worked on June 27 and has been in a medically directed self-quarantine since that time.

Case #20 is a bus operator who works out of Port Authority’s West Mifflin garage. They last worked on June 28 and has been in a medically directed self-quarantine since that time.

Case #21 is an auto shop employee who works out of a Port Authority facility at South Hills Junction (the same facility as Case #18). They last worked on July 2 and has been in a medically directed self-quarantine since that time.

As soon as these employees reported that they were self-quarantining pending the results of their tests, management at their respective work locations ordered a deep cleaning and sanitization of the facilities, and where appropriate, the last vehicles they drove. Port Authority also contracted a third-party company to deep clean and sanitize these areas.

Contact tracing investigations are underway for each of the employees, and coworkers with whom they were in close contact will be held off work as a precaution until they are medically cleared to return.

As a result of these cases, Port Authority will begin mandatory on-site temperature screenings at their work locations.

“This continues to be a trying time for our agency, the region and our nation as cases have begun to increase again in recent weeks,” Port Authority CEO Katharine Kelleman said in a recent letter to all employees. “On behalf of myself, our Board and our entire management team, I want to thank each and every one of you for your continued efforts to keep our transit system running so we can connect customers to hospitals, grocery stores and other businesses and services as the region continues its efforts to reopen and recover.”

As with all previous cases, Port Authority confidentially reported these cases to the Allegheny County Health Department.

Port Authority reminds all riders that vehicle capacity limits will remain in place so riders can socially distance as much as possible.

Face coverings are required at stops and stations, when boarding and riding inside vehicles, and at the Downtown Service Center.

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