FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FORTY-SEVEN (47) CLOSE CONTACTS IDENTIFIED FOR THE TWO (2) POSITIVE CASES OF COVID-19

The Ministry of Health and Human Services (MHHS) informs the public of the following updates on testing, quarantine and isolation in Palau:

- Initial contact tracing and investigation has revealed forty-seven (47) close contacts of the two (2) individuals who tested positive of COVID-19 on their day 4 testing (December 27, 2021).

- All close contacts were tested with the Binax antigen, and their results were negative. They are currently in quarantine and will undergo further testing on days 5 and 10.

The Bureau of Public Health will continue to monitor the situation and inform the public as appropriate. You may still be contacted if further investigation reveals that you have been in close contact with the positive cases. Close contact means you were within 6 feet from an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

MHHS urges everyone to remain calm and take appropriate actions to minimize the potential spread of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases in the community.

We continue to thank all guests and residents for your support in all COVID-19 response activities.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the MHHS EOC Incident Commander Ms. Ritter Udui at 775-0084. For other COVID-19 related information, call the MHHS COVID-19 Hotline at 488-0555 during regular working hours.