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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Winnebago County Extends Safer at Home Order

OSHKOSH, WI (May 14, 2020) – Yesterday, the Wisconsin Supreme Court voted to invalidate the statewide Safer at Home order issued by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. While the decision immediately ended the emergency order, the underlying threat of COVID-19 remains present in our community.

After careful review of the Supreme Court decision and our own local progress using the Badger Bounce Back scorecard, the Winnebago County Health Department has decided to issue a countywide Safer at Home order, effective immediately. The county order incorporates all elements of the statewide Safer at Home order and provides guidelines to reopen the county in a phased approach as soon as it is deemed safest to do so.

"This is a challenging time, but we all have an important role in minimizing the spread of COVID-19, especially among the most vulnerable populations," said Doug Gieryn, Winnebago County Public Health Department Director and Health Officer. "By extending the Safer at Home order, we are joining a regional initiative with our neighboring counties to put strategies in place that will protect the safety and well-being of our residents and businesses."

The <u>Winnebago County Safer at Home order</u> goes into effect immediately today, May 14, 2020, and will expire at 8 a.m. on May 20, 2020, or until a superseding issue is ordered. The order is issued under the authority of Wisconsin Statute 252.

For questions or concerns, contact the Winnebago County Health Department's COVID-19 hotline at 920-232-3026. For up-to-date information, please frequently monitor the Winnebago County Health Department <u>website</u> and <u>situation updates</u>, the <u>Wisconsin Department of Health</u> <u>Services website</u>, and the <u>CDC website</u>.

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