



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND MENTAL HYGIENE**
Oxiris Barbot, MD
Commissioner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Saturday, March 14, 2020
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**HEALTH COMMISSIONER DR. OXIRIS BARBOT ISSUES STATEMENT ON FIRST
CORONAVIRUS FATALITY IN NEW YORK CITY**

“We are deeply saddened to learn of the first fatality in New York City from coronavirus. This is a painful moment and one we furiously worked to avoid. We urge all New Yorkers to continue to take the necessary precautions to keep themselves and their fellow New Yorkers safe and healthy. We never for a moment lost sight of how serious this situation is, but this tragedy reflects how critical and dire the spread of the virus really is. Our hearts go out to the family during this difficult time.”

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