

Clark County Health District  
625 Shadow Lane  
Las Vegas, NV 89106  
(702) 385-1291

# News Release

---

Contact: Jennifer Sizemore  
(702) 249-6892

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT**

(Las Vegas, Nev. – June 14, 2001) – The Clark County Health District is issuing a tuberculosis alert to passengers of a Greyhound Bus traveling from Los Angeles to Las Vegas on Wednesday, June 13, 2001, that departed at 7:00 a.m. and arrived at 12:55 p.m.

A 28-year-old Caucasian male, diagnosed with a very contagious case of tuberculosis, was a passenger on the bus and may have exposed fellow travelers. Anyone who believes they may have come in contact with this man should contact their physician or the Health District for a TB skin test. He had been under an Order of Treatment and Isolation at San Francisco General Hospital but broke isolation. A warrant for his arrest was issued in San Francisco and he is currently receiving treatment in Las Vegas.

A tuberculosis skin test is administered by injecting a small amount of testing fluid (called tuberculin) just under the skin on the lower part of the arm. The person receiving the test will need to return to the testing site within 48 to 72 hours to see if they reacted positively to the test.

Tuberculosis is a disease caused by bacteria and is spread through the air from one person to another. People exposed to the bacteria may become infected, but not actually

(more)

develop the disease. An infected person without an active case of the disease is not contagious. Preventive treatment may be prescribed to help ensure an infected person does not develop an active case later in life. People with weakened immune systems, the elderly and young children are more susceptible to developing an active case if exposed.

Symptoms of active tuberculosis may include a bad cough that lasts longer than two weeks, pain in the chest, coughing up blood, weakness or fatigue, weight loss, no appetite, chills, fever and sweating at night.

Tuberculosis can usually be cured with medication. However, it takes at least six months for the medicine to kill all the bacteria. Infected people who do not complete their course of treatment are prone to developing drug-resistant forms of the disease.

For more information on tuberculosis testing contact the Clark County Health District Tuberculosis Treatment and Control Clinic at 383-1369.

####