FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Public Information Office
Contact: Sally Shutt, Communications Manager

Telephone: 910-437-1921

E-mail: sshutt@co.cumberland.nc.us

Feb. 25, 2011

Health Department Reports Current TB Investigation

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – The Cumberland County Health Department began an investigation on a suspected case of tuberculosis (TB) on Feb. 7. This exposure is likely to have affected a very small number of individuals. The department is working to contact individuals who may have been exposed and to ensure that they receive appropriate testing and treatment.

Currently, the Health Department is following the case according to the North Carolina TB Control Program protocols.

"While it is important for the community to be aware of this exposure, a relatively small number of people are likely to have been exposed, and no one is in immediate risk of any health problems," said Health Director Buck Wilson.

TB is a disease that generally develops over weeks to months, and it is completely curable with medications.

Wanda Tart, the department's nursing director, encourages those seeking additional information to contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at wttp://www.cdc.gov/tb/publications/faqs/default.htm or the state's TB control website at http://www.epi.state.nc.us/epi/tb/. The health department will provide updates as warranted via the Cumberland County website at www.co.cumberland.nc.us.