NEWS RELEASE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

RSA Tower 201 Monroe Street, Suite 914 Montgomery, AL 36104 Phone 334-206-5300 Fax 334-206-5520 www.adph.org

ADPH investigates TB cases

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Pam Barrett (334) 206-6228

Officials of the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) are investigating two cases of pulmonary tuberculosis identified in southwest Alabama residents, and have been working to ensure that all people who may have been exposed to them are screened quickly.

"As with any identified cases of tuberculosis in Alabama, ADPH will implement precautionary testing, investigation and control measures," Dr. Karen Landers, TB Advisory Council member, stated.

In late May, ADPH officials began identifying individuals who might have had close contact with the two people suspected of having TB. According to ADPH, "close contact" is defined generally as spending an extended amount of time with the subject in a physically close environment. Persons who were in close contact with the suspect cases have been notified, will be rapidly assessed and appropriate measures taken.

Tuberculosis is a treatable and preventable disease. ADPH recommends that only those individuals who were in close contact with the two people be tested.