

JOINT STATEMENT FROM BASTROP COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS  
(Includes Bastrop County, City of Bastrop, City of Elgin, City of Smithville)

April 17, 2020 - BASTROP COUNTY CONFIRMS SECOND LOCAL DEATH FROM COVID-19

The Bastrop County Office of Emergency Management and the Local Health Officer have confirmed the second local death from the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). The individual was a 56-year-old male from an unincorporated area of Bastrop County.

“Our hearts are heavy to announce the passing of a second citizen to the COVID-19 virus. We extend our deepest sympathies to his family and loved ones,” said County Judge Paul Pape. “This untimely death is more evidence of the severity of this outbreak and the need for everyone to take all precautions to avoid the spread of this deadly virus.”

Since the first fatality of the COVID-19 outbreak on April 6, Bastrop County has confirmed 32 additional cases. We now have a total of 44 confirmed positive illnesses, including the two deaths. The pandemic continues to spread throughout Central Texas with record numbers of cases being reported in Austin and surrounding counties.

“Our deepest condolences go out to the family of the deceased,” said Dr. Desmar Walkes, Bastrop County Health Authority. “We remain committed to reducing the spread of COVID-19.”

The best way to protect yourself and your family is to take the following preventive actions to avoid exposure:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people.
- Stay home when you are sick and call your doctor.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

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