

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

March 28, 2020

Bastrop County officials received notice of another positive test of COVID-19 today. This is the third positive case announced in the County and is the first as a result of sampling done at the County's test site. The patient is a 31-year-old female. She is quarantined in her home under a doctor's care.

"Although not unexpected, we are concerned by this news," said County Judge Paul Pape. "As testing increases, we will see an increase in the number of positives across the country and state, including here in Bastrop County. This is also good in a sense, because now this person will get treatment and will not be spreading the virus to others."

"If everyone limits exposure to those who might be ill, and follows the orders that have already been issued, we can slow the spread of this virus and protect our medical resources.", said Judge Pape. Bastrop County Local Health Authority, Dr. Desmar Walkes, added emphatically, "Stay home Bastrop County."

Everyone in Bastrop County is under the Governor's Executive Order issued on March 19, 2020. Additional Orders have been released for the City of Bastrop by Mayor Schroeder. Judge Pape said he is watching the indicators and, in coordination with our mayors and Dr. Walkes, will issue additional Orders when needed.

Under the guidelines of the CDC and the Texas Department of State Health Services we urge anyone in the community, if you suspect you may have Coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, to call your primary care physician before going to their office or clinic, or to a hospital emergency room. Doing this will preserve limited resources for those in our population who are elderly, have compromised immune systems, or have serious medical conditions such as heart disease, diabetes and lung disease.

Bastrop County officials stress the importance of staying vigilant, staying home, and practicing social distancing to slow the spread of COVID-19.