



Bell County Public Health District

www.bellcountyhealth.org

Phone: 254-773-4457

Twitter: @BellCountyPUBH

Facebook: Bell County Public Health District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 16, 2020

A second presumptive positive case of COVID 19 has been identified in Bell County, and the County's COVID 19 Action Plan has been amended to align with the most recent recommendations from the CDC.

Bell County Public Health District identified the second presumptive positive case late last night. The case is in the confirmatory testing process with the CDC. The individual is a 70-year-old man living in the Belton extraterritorial jurisdiction with a travel history to Europe. Bell County Public Health has initiated self-isolation protocol and contact tracing for this case.

Bell County is currently in Stage 2 of its COVID 19 Action Plan, which is being amended today to recommend that all gatherings of 50 or more people be canceled or postponed.

"This action is being taken in accordance with guidance from both the CDC and the Bell County Public Health District," said Bell County Judge David Blackburn. "I urge event organizers to heed the recommendation and cancel or postpone events scheduled within the next eight weeks."

The initial Bell County COVID 19 Action Plan, released on March 12, 2020, did not include recommendations for gatherings. Today's amendment addressing gatherings is in alignment with recommendations made by the CDC on March 15, 2020.



Bell County Public Health District

www.bellcountyhealth.org

Phone: 254-773-4457

Twitter: @BellCountyPUBH

Facebook: Bell County Public Health District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bell County COVID19 Action Plan

Stage 1 (no confirmed cases of COVID19)

- Stay home if you are sick
- Avoid contact with persons who are sick
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unclean hands
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue and throw the tissue away
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces with a disinfectant
- Don't travel to areas with active community spread of COVID19
- Wash your hands with soap and water regularly and use hand sanitizers with at least 60% of alcohol content when soap and water are not available

Stage 2 (a confirmed case of COVID19)

- All of Stage 1 measures
- Actively practice 'social distancing' ... whenever possible maintain 6 feet distance from other persons
- Avoid physical contact with other persons in social and workplace settings
- Recommend all gatherings of 50 or more persons be canceled or postponed

Stage 3 (community spread of COVID19)

- All Stage 1 & Stage 2 measures
- Bell County &/or BCPHD may issue orders restricting and/or prohibiting mass gatherings and/or movement of people