**Recommended Guidelines of Leon County**

The Leon County Office of Emergency Management and Leon County Judge Byron Ryder wish to update residents that, currently, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19. Judge Ryder wants to thank the residents of Leon County for being vigilant and adhering to the recommendations previously provided by the county, state, and federal agencies. Judge Ryder is recommending residents continue their vigilant efforts to avoid an executive order or a shelter in place order. Judge Ryder believes that by every resident doing their part will also establish a framework in which we can all be successful in not only fighting the virus, but in keeping people employed. The Leon County Office of Emergency Management will continue to monitor this situation minute-by-minute and day-by-day.” As of March 26, 2020, 12:00pm, Leon County still did not have a confirmed case of COVID-19.

The Recommendations provided guidance to businesses and churches on social distancing guidelines when conducting non-social gatherings, meetings and/or worship services, and lastly, the Judge strongly encourages Leon County residents to remain at their residences as much as possible and limit trips outside their residences to work and trips for essential items only, and that any residents that are AT RISK should to the greatest extent feasible, remain at home at all times.

Judge Ryder urges the residents of Leon County to comply with the recommendations Pursuant to Section 81.082(d) of the Texas Health and Safety Code, each person shall act responsibly to prevent and control communicable disease. The following actions, taken immediately, will reduce and delay the spread of COVID-19:

• People, businesses and communities should immediately undertake hygiene, cleanliness and sanitation practices that are accessible, affordable and known to be effective against COVID-19.

o Wash hands often for 20 seconds and encourage others to do the same.

o If no soap and water are available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

o Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue away.

o Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

o Disinfect surfaces, buttons, handles, knobs, and other places touched often.

o Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

• People who are known to have, or are under investigation or monitoring, for COVID-19, should adhere to the direction provided to them by duly authorized persons, including public health officials. Failure to abide by such direction may result in involuntary quarantine or isolation for the purposes of preventing further community spread of COVI D-19.

• People who are ill, especially those with symptoms consistent with influenza or COVID 19, should isolate themselves at home until they recover. Such persons should only present for medical evaluation and treatment if their symptoms are such that they cannot continue to be cared for in their home.

And, when seeking medical care should call their doctor, health care facility, or 211 before arriving to allow them to prepare.

• Limit trips into the public to essential outings. Traveling to work, the grocery store, the pharmacy or to seek medical care would be considered essential trips.

• Limit, as much as possible, close contact with other people. Stay six feet away.

• Do not gather in social groups of more than ten (10) individuals.

• Employers should allow work at home alternatives to the greatest extent possible.

• Restaurants should not allow dine-in options, either inside or outside. Take-out and curbside options with minimal contact are permitted and highly encouraged.

• Residents should not travel to New York or New Orleans until conditions have returned to normal.

• Anyone entering Texas from New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and New Orleans must self-quarantine for 14 days.