

Mark Stroehler
County Judge



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Gillespie County Reports Correction in COVID Case Count Due to Laboratory Errors

Gillespie County is reporting a correction in their reported COVID case count. Information reported by Gillespie County on the original two COVID cases came directly from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS). Subsequently, the Texas Department of State Health Services was notified by two independent labs that lab errors resulted in two false-positive reports of COVID-19. This was a situation never before encountered by the Texas Department of State Health Services. Accordingly, Gillespie County, in coordination with the DSHS, has adjusted the case count reducing the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Gillespie County from 3 to 1.

Gillespie County Judge Mark Stroehler commends the citizens of Gillespie County as their actions in following CDC recommendations and maintaining social distancing has been instrumental in keeping the spread of the COVID-19 virus to a minimum. Judge Stroehler also stated that “the County strives to give out timely information confirmed by the Texas Department of State Health Services. We appreciate the citizens patience and understanding in this unusual circumstance.” He also wanted to emphasize the following things everyone can do to help prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.

- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then wash your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Minimizing exposure is especially important for people who are 65 or older or who have an underlying health condition like heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, high blood pressure or cancer. People in those groups have a higher risk of developing severe disease if they do get COVID-19, and the safest thing for them during an outbreak will be to stay home as much as possible and minimize close contact with other people. To get ready, they should talk to their doctor about getting additional prescription medications and have enough household items and groceries on hand to stay home as needed.

The public can find coronavirus information at dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus.