



Bell County Public Health District

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 17, 2020

Bell County Public Health District has identified a third positive case of COVID-19. The case is awaiting confirmation from the CDC. The individual is a 70 to 80-year-old Temple man with a recent travel history to South Africa. Bell County Public Health has initiated self-isolation protocol and contact tracing for this case.

Bell County remains in Stage 2 of the Bell County COVID-19 Action Plan (see below), as this case is travel related and not a result of community spread.

Bell County COVID-19 Action Plan

Stage 1 (no confirmed cases of COVID-19)

- 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 COVID-19
- 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 COVID-19)

- 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 cancelled or postponed

Stage 3 (community spread of COVID-19)

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

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