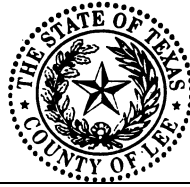


**Paul E Fischer**

County Judge  
Lee County



County Courthouse  
200 South Main, Rm. 107  
Giddings, TX 78942  
Phone: 979-542-3178  
Fax: 979-542-2988

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## JOINT STATEMENT OF LEE COUNTY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (Includes Lee County, City of Giddings, City of Lexington)

April 3, 2020

On April 1, 2020, Lee County Health Official Dr. Laura Birnbaum notified Lee County Judge Paul Fischer that Lee County had its first confirmed COVID-19 case. As of 8:00 a.m. today, Lee County now has two confirmed cases. HIPPA limits the information that can be released about infected individuals. We can say that the first infected individual is a female who lives in the Lexington zip code area. The source of the infection is undetermined. The second infection is still under investigation by the Texas Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). Confirmed infections are reported by doctors or clinics to the County Health Official of the infected person's residence, not the county where the test was administered or the county where the individual is employed.

After notification of the confirmed Lee County infections, Lee County Judge Paul Fischer Ordered quarantine protocols for infected individuals and members of their household. Judge Fischer's Order specifically requires individuals known to have or are under monitoring for COVID-19, to follow directions provided by public health officials and prohibits those persons from leaving the home except for very limited reasons. Violations of quarantine orders are punishable by fine or jail.

City of Giddings Mayor John Dowell and City of Lexington Mayor Alan Retzlaff support Judge Fischer's Order. Both cities will enforce Governor Greg Abbott's executive order minimizing in-person contact with people who are not in the same household and Judge Fischer's quarantine order.

Please take these Orders seriously. Governor Abbott's Order prohibits social gatherings outside of the home among members of your household. COVID-19 is a real threat and is being spread by casual contact. The best way to stay virus free is to stay home at all times, except for limited essential activities. Every time you leave your home ask yourself, is it worth leaving home to possibly become infected. **IF YOU FEEL SICK**, stay home and call your medical provider. **IF YOU ARE AN OLDER PERSON OR PERSON WITH UNDERLYING HEALTH CONDITIONS**, stay home and away from other people. **PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE**: wash your hands frequently, avoid touching your face, sneeze or cough into a tissue or inside of your elbow, disinfect frequently used items and surfaces as much as possible. Always maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet. Stay home. Think smart. Be safe.

Call the Lee County, the City of Giddings, and the City of Lexington, COVID-19 call center for information and resources. The call center number is 866-686-7873.