

La Salle County Fire Rescue



April 15, 2020

Citizens of La Salle County,

The Emergency Management Center (EMC) received word earlier today by way of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Region 8 that La Salle County has received a confirmed COVID-19 case. The persons involved have received specific quarantine instructions to follow to prevent the spread of the virus. Local government entities will ensure the household has food and water in effort to prevent the need to leave the quarantine area.

We must emphasize not to panic. La Salle County is one of the last counties on the IH-35 corridor to receive a confirmed case. What this means for our communities; there has been a vast amount of research and discoveries regarding the COVID-19 virus thus far. This research data has shown signs of proof that following the restrictions and guidelines set forth by federal, state and local officials is the greatest preventative measures to avoid spread and contact. This means we need to increase vigilance with regard to our social distancing by:

- 1) complying with the restrictions set forth in the Executive Order by Judge Joel Rodriguez and the county commissioners.
- 2) do not travel or venture outside of homes with exceptions to absolute necessities.
- 3) If we must leave the home, strictly adhering to the six-foot distance between persons.
- 4) constantly practice good hygiene by washing hands often and using hand sanitizer when not possible to wash hands. If you venture outside your home, wash your clothes and take a shower.
- 5) If you feel ill, self-quarantine (including away from family) until the symptoms have expired.

Research reveals communities and states who have employed these disciplines have had significant results in both prevention and recovery measures. Areas such as of Washington and California States who had increasing numbers in the beginning days of pandemic have proven progress due to the communities' discipline of following the restrictive measures put in place.

The City of San Antonio has launched a COVID-19 self-screening tool. The web-based platform is available in English and Spanish and can be found at <http://www.sanantonio.gov>. This tool will help people understand if they should seek COVID-19 testing from their health care provider, depending on the symptoms they report. It does not replace medical care but may ease people's minds if they feel they have symptoms of the virus. Click on the "Take Self Screening Test". At the top of the next screen on the right-hand side you can choose "English" or "Español". From here, enter your zip code and simply answer the questions. Once complete click the "View Result" tab and follow the instructions provided.

If you have any questions you can refer them to Captain Sean Wallace at (830) 202-4322.

Please be safe and wise in the upcoming days. Banning together to remain separated is our best chance to protect ourselves, our loved ones and prevent overloading hospitals during this critical time.

May God Bless Us All,

Sean C. Wallace, Captain, A-Shift
La Salle County Fire Rescue