



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cooke County COVID-19 Joint Information Center (JIC)

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Cooke County Confirms First Positive COVID-19 Test Collaboration Continues to Protect Citizens

Gainesville, Texas – April 10, 2020 Cooke County and the City of Gainesville have been notified of the first positive COVID-19 test result in Cooke County. The Gainesville resident received confirmed results on Friday, April 10, 2020, and the County Health Authority was immediately notified. They have begun their process of interviewing and notifying those who may have had contact with this person. The individual self-quarantined at home while awaiting test results and is currently recovering at home. Efforts continue to uphold HIPAA guidelines which mandate the privacy of patient information.

At this point in time, Cooke County conducted 163 tests for COVID-19 with 1 reported positive, 126 negative and 36 pending results. A local COVID-19 unified command joint information center, with representation across the City of Gainesville, Cooke County, North Texas Medical Center, and Muenster Memorial Hospital, serves as the community's source for information.

Go to "**Cooke County Pandemic Information Page**" on Facebook to find timely updates and ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19. A positive result does not change the recommendations for local citizens who are advised by the local and state authorities and the CDC.

Mayor Jim Goldsworthy responded, "Unfortunately, we have confirmed the first case of COVID-19 in the City of Gainesville. While no one is surprised that we have been affected by the spread of this virus, be assured our medical professionals and emergency personnel are prepared and stand ready to address this situation. Please take notice and use the confirmation of this virus in our community to make sure that you and your family are doing everything you can to adhere to the social distancing guidelines and current shelter in place orders. Please pray for the affected individual and continue to pray for us all. With adherence and unity we will weather this storm."

Local healthcare providers have the processes, procedures and emergency plans in place for infection prevention to respond to COVID-19 patients.