TO: LOCAL NEWS MEDIA

FROM: SALINE COUNTY, SALINE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, SALINE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND THE CITY OF SALINA

DATE: April 14th, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Saline County Health Department has been notified of three additional positive cases of COVID-19:

• A female in her 50’s associated with a known close contact who is isolated at home.
• A male in his 30’s associated with a known close contact who is isolated at home.
• A male in his 50’s associated with a known close contact who is isolated at home.

The Saline County Health Department is working closely with a private business that was identified by KDHE as having an outbreak of COVID-19 cases. At this time, we cannot disclose this business. The information that can provide:

• This private business has ceased operations and is closed to the public.
• All employees that have had exposure risks have been tested.
• This private business is in regular communication with the Health Department to comply with necessary precautions they need to take to protect their employees and their families.
• The Health Department has conducted their investigation of all exposed employees and have determined that there is no further information to indicate that exposed personnel visited public places that could further pose a significant threat to the public.
• Even before the Health Department investigation, there was limited public exposure and any individuals that were at risk have been notified.

Should the Health Department suspect that a person has come into contact with a positive case, then you will be contacted by the Health Department directly. If you are an essential business, we have attached information to this press release that outlines what businesses should be doing to keep their employees safe.

At 11 am, KDHE reported a total of 1426 confirmed cases in Kansas and 69 deaths. Saline County has a total of 13 positive cases, with two of those resulting in death.

Governor Kelly’s Statewide Stay-at-Home order is still in effect. Social distancing is imperative. It cannot be stressed enough the importance of staying home and only going out for essential tasks. You can reduce your risks of exposure by:

• Staying home and only leaving to perform essential tasks.
• Maintain social distancing when out in public – 6 feet or more.
• Covering your face when social distancing is not able to be maintained in public places.
• Washing your hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds or more.
• Using hand sanitizer if washing your hands is not readily available.
• Stay home if you are sick.
• Utilizing delivery services or pick-up services.
• Contact your medical provider if you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19

Saline County continues to receive reports of alleged non-compliance with the Statewide Stay-at-Home order. Alleged violations can be reported through our online submission form at www.saline.org. If you have a question about a business being essential or not, please visit the Governor’s website at https://governor.kansas.gov/keff to see the order, list of essential functions, and frequently asked questions.

Help our community in stopping the spread of this virus. Only follow official sources to obtain information: www.saline.org/coronavirus or www.kdheks.gov Stay Safe, Stay Healthy and Stay at Home.

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