



TO: LOCAL NEWS MEDIA

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

DATE: March 18th, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

As of today, March 18th, 2020, Saline County has not had any confirmed positive cases of COVID-19. When a positive case is identified in Saline County, the Saline County Health Department will be the only official source to release that information.

To say that this situation is changing rapidly would be an understatement. This press release will highlight the new guidance and information that our agencies received through our State partners.

- Governor Laura Kelly issued an Executive Order that temporarily prohibits evictions and foreclosures.
- The Kansas Department of Agriculture issued a release of information on their reassurance of the continuation of their essential services such as food safety, protection of animal health, and consumer protection.
- Guidance was issued by KDHE for Dental Practitioners.
- The Kansas Department of Labor issued a frequently asked questions document regarding unemployment insurance benefits due to individuals who may be involuntarily unemployed due to COVID-19.

The Salina Area Chamber of Commerce launched a website geared at keeping the local business community up to date on restaurant and retail businesses offering delivery, take-out and curbside options, health and safety updates, business resources, and remote working tools and options. Please visit www.salinakansas.org/salina-strong.html to view their site. If your organization or business would like to be mentioned on this resource page, please contact Tiffany Benien at tbenien@salinakansas.org.

Guidance and information are constantly being updated by KDHE. Please visit their site to see the most current information: <https://govstatus.egov.com/coronavirus>

We cannot stress enough the importance of preventing the spread of diseases by:

- Staying at home if you are sick.
- Washing your hands.
- Covering your sneezes and coughs.
- If you have concerns about your health condition, please call your healthcare provider.

As stated before, this is a rapidly changing situation. Our local government leaders are working hard and are making difficult decisions as it relates to the best interests of the health and safety of our citizens and employees. Additional press releases will be issued from our individual agencies and shared through our social media channels for any additional cancellations, closures, or modified services.

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