



TO: LOCAL NEWS MEDIA

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

DATE: March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

As of 5 pm, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020, Saline County has not had a confirmed positive case 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.

Governor Kelly announced in her press conference today that she is issuing a statewide ban on public gatherings of 10 or more people. At this time, she is not implementing a statewide shelter in place order.

U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Jerome Adams was quoted this morning on the Today show, "Everyone needs to act as if they have the virus right now. So, test or no test. We need you to understand you could be spreading it to someone else. Or you could be getting it from someone else, stay at home," he said. The amount of positive cases across the U.S. has increased by over 8,000 in the last 24 hours. Just because Saline County doesn't have a positive case identified, doesn't mean that it isn't here.

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.

###