



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 16, 2020

Contact: Marshanna Smith
(816) 881-1391
msmith@jacksongov.org

Jackson County Executive statement on COVID-19

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – In collaboration with government leaders across the metropolitan region, Jackson County Executive Frank White, Jr. has implemented the following measures in all of Jackson County in an effort to prevent further spread of COVID-19:

- Prohibit large public gatherings of more than 10 people effectively immediately. Exceptions include governmental and judicial functions, healthcare facilities, private business operations, religious and faith-based activities, weddings and funerals.
- Close restaurants, bars, taverns, clubs and movie theaters effective tomorrow, March 17, 2020 for 15 days. Exceptions are delivery, pickup and drive-through service.
- Close schools, with the support of superintendents from all 14 school districts, until Friday, April 3.

“These decisions have not been made lightly, but this is a public health emergency,” said Jackson County Executive Frank White, Jr. “No matter what side of the state line we’re on, we all have shared interests and a patchwork of closures and restrictions is not the best way forward for consistency and clarity. I know that because of this regional collaboration we will save lives.”

The County Executive’s action is consistent with recommendations of County Health Department Director Bridgette Shaffer, MPH and the guidelines issued today by the White House.

Currently, there are no reported cases of COVID-19 in Eastern Jackson County. The Jackson County Health Department is working closely with its partners across the community and region to monitor this rapidly evolving situation. The public can stay informed by signing up for digital updates or submitting questions to public health experts in the County by visiting www.jacohd.org.

###