

Friday, April 24, 2020 Local Briefing Notes

Locally

Cherokee County has no active cases at this time.

According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Cherokee County has a test rate of 6.22 per 1,000 residents as of today, with 124 tests reported by KDHE.

Statewide

Today 2,777 positive cases, 457 hospitalizations, 111 deaths and 20,811 negative tests were reported by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Yesterday those numbers were: 2,842 positive cases, 442 hospitalizations, 112 deaths and 18,836 negative tests.

During our daily call with statewide partners and counties across the State of Kansas, the following information was discussed:

The \$600.00 additional unemployment benefits were implemented by the Kansas Department of Labor beginning yesterday. No additional action is needed on the part of claimants.

It was mentioned again that agencies, including medical facilities or long-term care facilities who need to request Personal Protective Equipment, should submit a written request to their county emergency management office.

There was discussion about the Emergency Declaration expiring on May 1st and certain Executive Orders expiring May 3rd, including the Stay at Home order. Attorneys are working to resolve any issues and ensure federal aid isn't cut off as a result of the May 1st expiration of the Emergency Declaration.

In addition, it was acknowledged local governments need notice as to what the state intends to do prior to the EO expiration on May 3rd. They are working on a written plan and anticipate it being rolled out within the next 24-48 hours, so we may have some indication prior to Monday.

Swimming pools were again brought up and it was stated the Governors Office is working on written guidance, which is anticipated to include swimming pools, but there was no indication as to what that guidance may look like.

A question came up about restaurants selling liquor to go, in accordance with Executive Order 20-27. The order allows for the selling of liquor in unoriginal containers, so long as it is accompanied in a transparent bag and dated receipt. The Division of Alcohol Beverage Control does not recommend a specific bag, however a clear zip-lock bag, taped with the receipt stapled to it, or a plastic bag with duct tape and the receipt stapled to it, were given as examples of acceptable methods.

The Department of Labor was asked about stylists and others who may be considered self-employed or independent contractors. They are eligible for benefits extended to them under the CARES Act, however the DOL is working to implement the program so once the program is stood up, they will receive their benefits, which the DOL representative believed would be retroactive.

As was the past couple of weeks, there will be a 1:00 statewide call on Saturday but no call planned on Sunday.

Nationally

The United States is reporting 880,112 positive cases reported in the United States this morning, with 50,114 deaths and 80,937. Yesterday Johns Hopkins reported 826,184 positive cases, 46,851 deaths and 77,064 recovered cases for the United States.

Below is our local daily update.

I hope you all are able to enjoy the weekend!

Thanks,
Sheriff David Groves