

April 27, 2020

PRESS RELEASE

Today is Monday, April 27th and this is a 3:30 update. We've tested 1,274 people in Roane County and have had seven (7) positive cases and all seven (7) have recovered. We now have no active cases in Roane County. We appreciate each of our citizens doing what they need to do in order to social distance. We also appreciate our businesses in taking what precautions they need to in order to stop the spread of this virus.

Our office has had a number of calls regarding when our close contact services (barber shops, salons, etc.) can open back up their businesses? The answer is, we don't know.

Unlike Knox County who has their own Health Director, Roane County's Health Director works for Governor Bill Lee. Roane County must follow Governor Lee's Executive Order where Knox County can follow their Health Director's Executive Order. Roane County Government does not have the authority to make this decision.

On another note, Roane County Courthouse has been open but by appointment only since March 25th. We will open the courthouse without appointment restriction Friday, May 1st but with limited restrictions.

- All employees must enter the Courthouse through the main entrance and will be required to have their temperature taken. If an employee has a fever, they will be prohibited from entering.
- Employees will be provided with masks and are encouraged to wear them when they are serving the public.
- Citizens must enter through the main entrance of the Courthouse but in two (2) separate lines. Citizen's temperature will also be checked by an EMT/Paramedic before entering the Courthouse. We ask that citizen's wear a mask.
- No passports are being issued at this time.
- No Driver's Licenses and/or Real ID services will not be processed.

We want to remain at seven (7) cases and no more. We need to take the necessary precautions in order to stop the spread of this virus. We want to thank you for once again checking in on our updates.

God bless Roane County, our State, and our Nation.

RW/ba
C:media