



**MEDIA RELEASE #21**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Coffey County Recommends Following Governor Kelly's Executive Order 20-52**

The Coffey County Health Officer, in concurrence with local officials, highly recommends the public wear a mask or other face covering as described in Governor Laura Kelly's Executive Order (EO) 20-52. Coffey County will not mandate that citizens wear masks or other face coverings. EO 20-52 states that "those enforcing this order should use their discretion and consider the totality of the circumstances as they determine appropriate enforcement actions." It is recognized that wearing a mask or other face covering can lower the risk of contracting COVID-19. A copy of EO 20-52 can be found at the following link:

- <https://governor.kansas.gov/newsroom/executive-orders/>

As a reminder, Coffey County remains in Phase Out. It will be at the discretion of businesses in Coffey County whether or not they require masks. If an outbreak of COVID-19 were to re-occur, stricter infection control measures and social distancing may be instituted to contain the outbreak. Residents should continue prevention methods such as:

#### Social Distancing:

- At the individual level, this means maintaining at least six-foot distance from other individuals.
- At the group level, this means canceling mass gatherings where individuals will be in close contact with each other and cannot maintain that six-foot distance.

#### Infection Control Measures:

- Wash hands with soap and water for at least twenty (20) seconds as frequently as possible OR use at least 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Cover coughs, sneeze into your sleeve or inner elbow and not into your hands or openly into the space around you.
- Regularly clean high-touch surfaces and avoid shaking hands.
- As a best practice, wear a mask or face covering.

According to Kansas Law, it is not a criminal offense to not wear a mask or other face covering. The public should refrain from calling 911 or the Coffey County Sheriff Dispatch to report on non-compliance of people wearing a mask. Citizens should respect other's right to wear or not to wear a mask.

Coffey County residents can stay informed by visiting:

- Coffey County official website: [www.coffeycountyks.org](http://www.coffeycountyks.org)
- Coffey Health Department Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/CoffeyCountyHD](https://www.facebook.com/CoffeyCountyHD)
- KDHE: [www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov](http://www.coronavirus.kdheks.gov) or KDHE phone bank at 1-866-534-3463
- CDC: [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)