

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Scott A. Rivkees, MD
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

July 15, 2020

J.T. Surles, Chairman
Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners
1 Courthouse Circle
Monticello, FL 32344

Re: Surge of COVID-19 Cases

Dear Chairman Surles,

As you are aware, the Department of Health in Jefferson County (DOH-Jefferson) informed the public this morning of a dramatic increase in COVID-19 cases over the past two weeks. A total of 100 cases of COVID-19 have been reported for Jefferson County. Forty-seven (47) of these cases have been reported since July 1. This is an increase of 89 percent. Transmission of the virus has occurred through outbreaks in places of business and from community spread.

The purpose of this letter is to emphasize the ongoing importance of adhering to social distancing guidelines in all public places. With the recent surge of cases in our community, I recommend the Board resume a virtual meeting format until further notice. The board room and the Emergency Operations Center are not set up to adhere to socially distanced seating. Convening a public meeting in these locations increases the risk of person-to-person spread of the virus.

The Department is working diligently with county leadership and community partners to stop the spread of the virus. Your prompt attention to this matter will assist in further protecting the citizens of Jefferson County. Should you have any questions, please call me at (850) 342-0170.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Allbritton, M.B.A.
Health Officer/Administrator