

Well, this is my 5<sup>th</sup> update and we are still under the stay-at-home order of Governor Ivey. I realize other states may be making different decisions, but as of now, Alabama is not one of those states. I want to encourage you to continue social distancing, hand washing, disinfecting and only making food and medical/medicine visits that are absolutely necessary. I am sure that you have seen the rise in cases this week. As of this date, we are at 88 positive cases. This is not a time to let our guard down or to begin relaxing any of the practices we have been doing since the coronavirus was made known. It is also not a time to think that this pandemic is not under God's control. He has not, and will not, forsake his children. He has a greater plan; stay faithful to Him!

The city continues to operate under Level III of the Infectious Disease/Pandemic Policy and will until further notice. We will be hosting our first City Council meeting through ZOOM and live streaming it on YouTube on Monday, April 27, 2020. We have high expectations that this will give the viewer a better experience, as well as, keep in following with the Governor's order for our meetings. We welcome your feedback after viewing Monday's meeting.

As for city departments and employees, we are still working within flexible schedules, but we seem to be fairing pretty well. We have had a few of our employees that have symptoms or have been exposed to be tested for COVID-19. Thankfully, we have had no positive cases. I commend our employees for working safely and following the guidelines issued by the CDC.

I am still participating in multiple conference calls with different entities. The Calhoun County Resource Center is still manning telephones for your questions and concerns. They may be reached by dialing 2-1-1 anytime Monday-Friday from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm. Again, please limit your contact and travel so that we may start to see a decline in the number of positive cases in Jacksonville and Calhoun County.

I would like to commend you for your increased participation in the Census 2020. Please continue to do so, and help others you may know to fill out these forms. I still encourage the online participation at <https://2020census.gov/en.html>. This also allows you to assist family members that do not live with you in completing the form for them. The deadline is still a few months away, August 14<sup>th</sup>, but I urge you to complete this census at your earliest convenience. Remember it is very important that the counts be accurate because the numbers directly affect any federal funding into our state and city.