

## Perry County and What Is Known About The Coronavirus (COVID-19) Testing

UPDATE 3-13-20, 6:15 P.M.

Commissioner Albert Turner, Jr. has attended a meeting where the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) was the topic for rural communities. The Commissioner said he is relieved that test kits are now available in Alabama.

In Perry County, Dr. Shane Lee of Vaughn Clinic and Cahaba Medical Family Center has the ability to collect the sample and safely submit the sample to the State health lab or a public clinic like Lap Corp. for testing. Only physicians can perform the collection and submit the sample for testing.

Patients must exhibit certain signs before the test will be performed. The following signs combined are reasons for testing:

1. Coughing with fever of 100.3 or above
2. Having pre-existing lung condition
3. Over the age of 60 years
- 4 Traveled outside the U.S. or to a State where the virus has been detected.

The Perry County School System will be closed as of Monday March 18, 2020 for two and a half weeks. The Governor announced the closing on Friday for all K-12 schools in Alabama. The Perry County Courthouse will be limited to only Official business being conducted beginning Monday March 16, 2020. Persons without Official business needing to be conducted will not be allowed in the Courthouse. No Court will take place during the next two and a half weeks in the 4th Circuit which includes Perry County. There will be no jail visitation until further notice in Perry County at the Name Good Detention Center. Should you exhibit any combination of the above signs call your personal physician and inform him/her of your illness. Please do not go straight to the ER room. Your physician will arrange for you to come in the clinic or to the ER of a local hospital. This is to prevent the spread of the virus to healthcare personal and others.

There will be no visitation at the two area Nursing Homes for the immediate future. It is unknown at this time when the visitation ban will be lifted.

Currently, State of Alabama have one positive test for Coronavirus disease (COVID-19). However, this does not mean that the virus is wide spread over the State.

Commissioner Turner ask that each person continue to be aware and take the necessary precaution to prevent the spread of the virus or the contraction of the virus.

The Federal Government has now declared a National Emergency. States will now have coordinated plans for effective containment of the virus.