

Executive Committee Conference Call with Governor Tate Reeves

March 30, 2020

Summary:

- 1. The most critical hot spots for the virus are still New York City, New Jersey and California. Based on a per capita basis, Mississippi has tested more individuals for the virus than California has.**
- 2. The State will begin to move toward the South Korean model to slow the spread of the virus by identifying potential hot spots, making the public aware of those hot spots and increasing testing in those areas.**
- 3. As of today, the Department of Health has administered over 5,000 tests, and the Governor thinks that the private labs have administered 5,000, as well. The private labs must report the number of tests to the State which, in turn, will report them to the CDC. Testing data continues to improve.**
- 4. The Governor is currently exploring the potential plans to establish mobile hospitals if it becomes necessary. He has visited military installations around the State to plan for this scenario.**
- 5. The Governor has signed an MOU with the Federal Government to provide relief for Mississippians who lose their ability to work due to COVID-19. It provides unemployment assistance to people who might not typically qualify for regular unemployment benefits such as independent contractors or those who are self-employed. It will provide relief for non-profits and local governments to ensure that they can help workers get assistance.**
- 6. Mayor Billy Hewes of Gulfport asked if cities can be reimbursed for first responders or essential workers who are qualifying for holiday pay. The Governor was unsure but will reach out to MEMA and ask for 100% reimbursement instead of the normal 75/25 match requirements.**
- 7. Mayor Billy Nowell of Cleveland asked if regulations have been relaxed to allow restaurants to sell bottles of wine or six-packs of beer with curbside delivery. The Governor has not authorized any change except for liquor stores to allow online purchases and curbside delivery.**
- 8. Mayor Hewes expressed concerns about Mississippi following other states in requiring travel quarantines and local law enforcement being able to enforce such orders. The Governor made the commitment to rely on local feedback before a travel quarantine is ordered and has reached out to Florida's Governor to discuss their order which puts the enforcement on local law enforcement. He is not in support of doing the same thing.**
- 9. Mayor Carolyn McAdams of Greenwood asked about daycare centers, particularly ones that support healthcare workers since Greenwood's largest employer is the**

hospital. The Governor stated that daycare centers are considered essential employers and has not ordered that they close. He did say, however, that the Department of Health provided guidance to daycare centers about spreading the children out and keeping them in groups of 10 or less, as well as implementing heightened cleaning efforts to disinfect areas.

10. His one most important statement of advice is for folks to stay home if possible, particularly if they are over 65 or have a compromised immune system. He thinks that approximately 75% of citizens are in compliance with this advice.