



COUNTY COMMISSION

BALDWIN COUNTY
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MEMBERS
DISTRICT 1. JAMES E. BALL
2. JOE DAVIS, III
3. BILLIE JO UNDERWOOD
4. CHARLES F. GRUBER

July 7, 2020

The Honorable Kay Ivey, Governor
State of Alabama
600 Dexter Avenue
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dr. Scott Harris, State Health Officer
Alabama Department of Public Health
P.O. Box 5616
Montgomery, Alabama 36103-5616

Brian Hastings, Director
Alabama Emergency Management Agency
P.O. Box 2160
Clanton, AL 35046

Dear Governor Ivey, Dr. Harris and Director Hastings:

Over the past several weeks we have experienced an increased citizen demand for COVID-19 testing specifically from the Alabama Department of Public Health in Baldwin County. Citizens have shared examples of unsuccessful attempts to locate testing and difficulty or inability to secure an appointment with the single ADPH testing site. More recently we are hearing from our local hospitals that people are using emergency rooms as an avenue for testing which is a dangerous trend for our hospital staff and costly for patients who are incurring emergency room fees in exchange for testing.

In accordance with the Unified Command structure, the Baldwin County Emergency Management Agency submitted a request for additional testing sites through web EOC and local hospitals also submitted a request via AIMS. This letter represents the Baldwin County Commission's support of these requests.

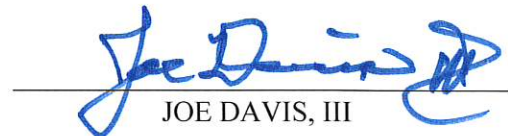
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We know this pandemic has been incredibly challenging and we appreciate all the work you are doing to meet the needs of Alabamians across the state. It is our duty to communicate with you once an issue rises to a level making it necessary to reach out. Testing site shortages in Baldwin County have reached that threshold and we appreciate every consideration of this request.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at (251) 972-8515.

Sincerely,


BILLIE JO UNDERWOOD


JOE DAVIS, III


JAMES E. BALL


CHARLES F. GRUBER

Item BJU/slb/akg