



## STOREY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE

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*Marshall McBride, Chair  
Jay Carmona, Vice-Chair  
Lance Gilman, Commissioner*

### COVID-19 Statement from your County Commissioners

April 21, 2020

Dear Residents and Businesses of Storey County:

The Board of Storey County Commissioners provides the following summary of its efforts to respond to COVID-19 impacts to our community. We hope that you find this information useful.

- **Where can I find information?**

- Official County website: [www.storeycounty.org/607/Coronavirus-COVID-19-Updates](http://www.storeycounty.org/607/Coronavirus-COVID-19-Updates)
- County Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StoreyCounty/> (no Facebook account needed)
- Receive auto-alerts sign-up: <https://www.storeycounty.org/list.aspx>
- County Manager's office at 775.847.0968 or email [hr@storeycounty.org](mailto:hr@storeycounty.org)
- Carson City Health & Human Services <https://gethealthycarsoncity.org>
- Nevada Health Response: <https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov>
- Solid Waste Transfer Station: <https://www.storeycounty.org/599/Waste-Management-Info>

- **What would we do with a positive case?**

Currently, there are no known cases of COVID-19 in Storey County. The following summarizes possible response if such were to occur.

- Health experts of the Quad-County Health Coalition (Carson, Douglas, Lyon, and Storey) receive earliest notification of any positive case. Relevant, HIPAA compliant information may be shared with Storey County.
- The Health Coalition would confirm whether the case is invalid, presumptive, or confirmed. There may be testing, travel history review, and other inquiries about the subject person.
- The confirmed subject case may undergo separation such as home-quarantine or other as appropriate, usually for 14 days.
- Others with whom the subject recently interacted may be contacted and assessed.
- The Health Coalition would monitor the subject's health condition and status until recovery.
- Storey County and its partners including Senior Services, Community Chest, school district, Food Bank, and others may coordinate services to the subject. Services could include food, prescriptions, errands, mail, and other services as appropriate for the case.

- **How is Storey County managing the health emergency?**

The Storey County Emergency Operation Center (EOC) joined the Quad-County Health Coalition and Quad-County Regional Emergency Management Center which includes Storey, Lyon, Douglas, and Carson City counties. The regional EOC is in Carson City. The EOC team is working 24-hours on:

- Monitoring COVID-19 cases and reports;
  - Preparing for what may and may not come;
  - Communicating with state and federal agencies, local EOC teams, and the public;
  - Coordinating with health agencies and providers to manage planning and response;
  - Managing emergency declaration FEMA and other funding opportunities;
  - Coordinating a testing station to be placed in Carson City for the region. There are federal delays as many resources are going to “hot-spots” like New York;
  - Storey County has declared an emergency related to COVID-19, thus making it eligible for FEMA and other federal financial reimbursement and assistance.
- **Are Storey County offices open for business?**

County services remain open but under the following limitations:

    - Walk-in restrictions apply, hours are modified, and appointments are encouraged.
    - Online, phone, and mail in services are provide. Call each office for details.
    - Online credit card processing fees are waived for water, sewer, taxes, etc.
    - Some offices have drop-boxes available. Call for availability.
    - DMV is closed. Waivers for registration and renewals statewide are expected.
    - Water/sewer non-payment disconnects are halted for VC, Gold Hill, and Silver City.
    - Certain court cases are postponed. Call Justice Court at 775.847.0962 for info.
    - Storey County remains open with increased sanitation and social distancing measures.
    - Contact the County Manager’s Office at 775.847.0968 or [hr@storeycounty.org](mailto:hr@storeycounty.org) with questions or concerns.
- **Can I open my business?**
    - Many local businesses have stayed open after the Governor’s closure of “non-essential” businesses by providing curbside pickup, take-out, online services, and other means which maintain social distancing. We encourage this practice.
    - Home-based businesses may do the same so long as they follow the Governor’s directives.
    - If a business is considered “essential” and provides food, supplies, fuel, or power., such as those at TRI, it may remain open.
    - If you are unsure whether your business can be open, contact the Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development 775.687.9900.
- **Where do I report COVID-19 incidents?**
    - Residents, businesses, employees, and employers should report COVID-19 concerns to Carson City Health and Human Services hotline at 775.283.4789 [www.gethealthycarsoncity.org/novel-coronavirus-2019/](http://www.gethealthycarsoncity.org/novel-coronavirus-2019/) or County Manager 775.847.0968.
- **What if I am having trouble getting Unemployment (UI) benefits?**
    - The state system is overwhelmed with unprecedented claims. We spoke to many locals trying to get through to UI case workers. We recommend calling and logging in on off-peak hours, keep calling back until you get through, and inquiry weekly. Just don’t give up. It will work.

- **How will Storey County help VC businesses recover?**
  - The Virginia City Tourism Commission (VCTC) is working with event managers to reschedule and avoid canceling VC events. Our team is developing marketing and event strategies expedite recovery of the local economy following the COVID-19 matter.
  - The VCTC is preparing a marketing campaign focused on the Reno-Sparks and northern California region following the COVID-19 event. They are budgeting accordingly for 2020.
  - The VCTC is preparing an advertising event after COVID-19 to remind folks that Virginia City is open for business.
  - Small Business Administration (SBA) federal loans and grant assistance and means to navigate the complex enrollments systems are posted on the county COVID-19 website.
  - Tips and actual experiences navigating through SBA assistance network were written by the Community Chest director and are viewable at:  
<https://www.storeycounty.org/607/Coronavirus-COVID-19-Updates>
- **What about our seniors and others in-need?**
  - Storey County Senior Services provides drive-thru meal services and Meals-on-Wheels. 775.847.0957.
  - Senior Services provides rides and runs errands for groceries, Rx, and doctor appointments. 775.847.0957.
  - Food boxes are provided through Food Pantry at the Community Center. 775.297.1267.
  - 600 residents in-need are assisted through these services in Storey County.
  - Community Chest provides free case management and counseling offered through tele-health. 1.800.787.2568.
  - Substance abuse hotline is available through Community Chest at 775.297.1267.
  - Youth virtual education and social programs ages 0-18 are provided by Community Chest.
  - Fraternal Order of the Eagles in VC is donating \$1,000/month to the Senior Center for food and \$1,000/month to CCI to help with rental and utilities assistance.
- **Where can I get information about our schools?**
  - The Storey County team communicates weekly with the Storey County School District superintendent to plan community services around school closures.
  - Storey County schools provide some of Nevada's top e-learning programs.
  - Updates are provided at <http://www.storey.k12.nv.us/>.

We thank you all for your understanding and cooperation during this emergency, and please:

*Stay Home for Storey,*

*Stay Home for Nevada.*

Sincerely,

Storey County Commissioners:

Marshall McBride, Chair

Jay Carmona, Vice-Chair

Lance Gilman, Commissioner