

# TSE

CONSULTING

Governor Ron DeSantis, Division of Emergency Management Director Jared Moskowitz, Florida National Guard Assistant Adjutant General John Haas and Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry held a press conference at the Jacksonville Jaguars testing site today, April 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Governor Ron DeSantis:

- Wishes for a Happy Passover, the State of Florida will not close a church or synagogue but encourage folks to observe in a socially distant manner
- Testing
  - The Jacksonville testing site was a partnership with the federal government, but this was supposed to go to April 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Working with the Mayor, we are working with the National Guard to make sure they have access to a testing site
  - FEMA committed to sending supplies to Jacksonville, Orange County Convention Center and Hard Rock Stadium
  - At Jacksonville, we will expand testing criteria
  - Now that the state is overseeing the site, we will expand and have the capacity to expand
  - **Starting Monday anyone who has Covid symptoms regardless of age, healthcare workers and first responders, and anyone with close and sustained contact with anyone with Covid can be tested at the Jacksonville, Orange County or Miami Gardens testing sites**
  - Seven total drive thru testing sites around the state
  - 165,000 test results returned
  - Working on getting the FDA approved anti-bodies test for this particular strain of Covid-19 anti-bodies
  - If you know that you have the anti-bodies, the general thought is that you may have immunity to it moving forward
- Travel
  - People entering from the hotspot have to self-isolate
  - 17,000 people screened from New York and New Orleans
- Supplies Distributed
  - 5.2 million masks
  - 275,000 gowns
- Hospitalizations
  - Flattening the curve is important to managing hospital capacity
  - Right now we have 44% of hospital beds available
  - 40% ICU beds available
  - Over the last 8 hours, net reduction statewide of 50 people in hospitals for Covid
  - Have capacity for field hospitals

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- Nursing Homes and Long-Term Care Facilities
  - 85% of people who have died from the virus are 65 and older
  - DOH has a strike team on site at a facility in Suwannee county
    - 50 people at the facility, 30 are staff, 20 are residents
- Unemployment Compensation
  - Over 225,000 applications received this week, they are working on processing
  - 12,000 paper applications received
  - 2000 state employees on stand by or actively processing applications
  - Seeing this around the country, but it took us a year to reach this number of claims during the Great Recession
- Jacksonville Site
  - Thank you to the Mayor, the Sheriff, Jacksonville Fire Rescue
  - The expanded test criteria will greatly help

### **Mayor Lenny Curry, City of Jacksonville**

- This holy week is a reminder that we can all county on each other
- Thank you to the Governor for being so accessible
- When we learned the site may close down, it was a great concern, but the Governor called two nights ago
- \$20 million expedited from other emergencies has allowed our city to adequately respond
- Thank you to the National Guard who will be taking on shifts to relieve our local sheriff's deputies and local fire rescue

### **Director Jared Moskowitz, Division of Emergency Management**

- We are running the largest logistics mission in state
- Yesterday was the largest operation ever
  - 2 million masks
  - 50,000 hand sanitizer
  - 350,000 gloves
- Thank you to the private vendors who have fulfilled
- In the last three weeks we have disbursed \$225 million mostly from Irma reimbursement, this brings the amount of money disbursed in 16 months up to \$2 billion, by far the largest disbursements in the agency's history
- Want to remind Floridians that everything we are doing is working
- We're used to seeing spaghetti models turn rapidly, and while the data looks good now, it can change any time so continue to prepare



## Press Questions

- Demographics of Deceased
  - No fatalities in Florida under 25. Because it disproportionately impacts elderly, we focused on protecting seniors and those with chronic conditions. Coronavirus may be more of an impact on a 55-year-old with multiple chronic conditions than to a healthy 65 year old.
- Positive testing rate trends
  - Places like New York City, 40% of the people are testing positive. To have a 5 or 6% rate, that is a good sign. And when you look, we are not taking a broad sweep of the population, we are focusing on those with symptoms. Look at positive number and see how that progresses. We may have needed to look in other places beyond China initially. Of the 16,000 test results we received today, 8% tested positive. Northeast Florida has handled this well.
- Nursing homes
  - We had the one with the number of fatalities, AHCA has put in a number of protections. DOH will investigate non-compliance. What we are seeing is infected staff entering and not wearing PPE. With the rapid tests, we will really be able to help the nursing homes. When someone comes into a hospital while they await the results, the hospital may want to return the patient to the nursing home if they are not symptomatic which is problematic since the results may take 72 hours.
- Unemployment
  - We built additional capacity, what I was told was that we needed to direct people to the website, but obviously that couldn't handle this. The goal is to get the money into the hands of Floridians. Expected to get the federal money soon. Between what Florida has and the feds are providing, it is close to \$900 a week.
  - It used to take 3+ weeks to get these checks turned around. I have directed changes on how it is done. It is law that you need a valid social security card and you need to have worked at a Florida business so that all has to be addressed. Before this rush, it took three weeks but we are working on expediting even further. Likely to see another uptick in the middle of the month. Working with some companies to prepare for the uptick in the coming weeks. It will take a lot of federal and state work.