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## CITY OF CHARLESTON

### Press Release

March 14, 2020

The City of Charleston is closely monitoring the effects of the first confirmed case of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the area. Our top priorities are the health, safety, and welfare of our residents, visitors, and employees. The city government agencies are also working to ensure that the delivery of essential public services continues. We are taking all necessary steps to make sure we continue to deliver critical police and fire services, and maintain public infrastructure. Our agencies have taken measures to appropriately equip our first responders to protect themselves and those they serve. We continue to work closely with state and local health officials to ensure the proper steps are taken to help prevent the spread of the virus.

As Mayor, I encourage the citizens of Charleston to follow the guidance from the Governor's Office and the Illinois Department of Public Health. We continue to encourage social distancing and conducting business over the phone or internet as much as possible. As per the Governor and the Illinois Department of Public Health, anyone who is exhibiting signs and symptoms should contact a health care professional such as a family physician or the Coles County Public Health prior to going to a health care facility to seek treatment unless it is a life threatening emergency. For further information please see the latest updates from the Centers for Disease Control, Illinois Department of Public Health, and the Coles County Public Health websites listed below.

Brandon Combs, Mayor  
City of Charleston

#### Centers for Disease Control

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

#### Illinois Department of Public Health

<http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus>

#### Coles County Public Health

<https://www.co.coles.il.us/cchd/index.html>