JEFFERSON COUNTY COVID-19 JOINT COMMUNICATION UPDATE

A Collaborative Effort of

For Immediate Release

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Birmingham, AL (March 17) – Following the state of emergency declarations by both Jefferson County and the City of Birmingham yesterday, the Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency has activated a Joint Information Center. This means the following agencies are working together to provide timely, coordinated and accurate information on the COVID-19/coronavirus pandemic in our community: City of Birmingham, Jefferson County Department of Health, Jefferson County Commission, Birmingham Airport Authority, United Way and the Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency.

"Forming a Joint Information Center is a way for each agency to coordinate with each other and help each other with resources," said Jim Coker, Director of the Jefferson County EMA. "In times like this, providing clear concise communication is key to our citizens and that is what we are going to do."

The first action of the JIC was to form a keyword that the public can sign up for, simply text "InfoJeffco" to 888-777, and citizens will be signed up to receive alerts on their phone. We will also use #infojeffco and the City of Birmingham will continue to use BHMCOVID to 888-777 for City specific updates (a Spanish language service is available by BHMCOVID19 to 888-777).

All agencies appreciate the patience of citizens during this challenging time and want to keep them informed with up to do date, timely information, that is factual.

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