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Joel R. Strasz
Public Health Officer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To: All Media
From: Joel Strasz, Public Health Officer
Date: April 2, 2020
Re: **Emergency Order – 2020-2 - REQUIRED COVID-19 SYMPTOM MONITORING OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKERS IN BAY COUNTY**

BAY COUNTY, MICHIGAN – Bay County Public Health Officer Joel Strasz has released Emergency Order 2020-2 requiring monitoring of symptoms for certain essential infrastructure workers in Bay County. The Emergency Order is attached.

The order requires the following classifications of critical infrastructure workers to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 (Coronavirus): – specifically: (a) healthcare workers (including anyone working at a hospital, urgent care center, clinic, nursing home, or long term care facility); (b) first responders (including EMS, Fire, Police, and 9-1-1); (c) corrections officers; (d) municipal and community water treatment; (e) wastewater; and (f) energy.

“Most employers with critical infrastructure workers are already monitoring their employee’s well-being at this time,” said County Executive Jim Barcia, “so this is merely a formality for the overwhelming majority. Yet given the distressing news coming from Italy and New York, it is apparent that these workers are most at risk for both obtaining the virus and inadvertently spreading to others. We believe that this action, coupled with our other actions will help bend the curve and lessen the extent of the virus in the short and long-term. More importantly, it will help ensure the continuity of these essential services in our community.”

In order to reduce the spread of COVID-19, please follow these recommendations from the Center of Disease Control:

1. Wash your hands often with soap and water or use hand sanitizer.
2. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
3. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
4. Avoid handshakes.
5. Avoid contact with people who are sick.
6. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- 7. IF YOU ARE SICK, STAY HOME.**

For the latest and most accurate information regarding the COVID-19 please go to the Bay County Health Department website at www.baycounty-mi.gov/Health and the Center for Disease Control website at www.cdc.gov.