



DANIELLA LEVINE CAVA
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COMMISSIONER
DISTRICT 8

June 29, 2020

Governor Ron DeSantis
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Governor DeSantis:

The State of Florida now leads the U.S. in new coronavirus cases and has shattered records daily for the number of residents testing positive for COVID-19. In Miami-Dade County, our positive rate has risen dramatically to almost 20% and shows no signs of slowing down. These numbers confirm what public health officials have said since the beginning: that this crisis is not going away any time soon and that we must take decisive action in order to prevent further spread and loss of life. With more than 141,000 Floridians having tested positive and at least 3,418 Floridians having lost their lives, we know that our families, our neighbors, and our constituents are at risk if we do not take further steps to understand the spread of this virus and to protect the individuals and families already affected.

In light of these increases and the possibility of further outbreaks, I want to reiterate my call for mass testing to better understand how many of our residents have been infected and to provide our public health experts with more complete data upon which to base their decisions. I also urge that you expand our State's contact tracing programs to understand where outbreaks will occur before they occur and to curtail the spread of this disease, particularly in our most at-risk communities. As many Floridians remain out of work, I am calling on you to extend the eviction moratorium set to expire at the beginning of next month. With a failing unemployment system and a re-opening in question, it is now more critical than ever that our residents not be subjected to the stress of losing their homes.

I am calling on you to take these three concrete steps to lessen the burden on Florida families and to address the recent surge in cases and to provide necessary relief to Floridians:

- Guarantee State support for mass testing
- Implement a robust contact tracing program
- Extend eviction moratorium currently set to expire July 1st



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As we work together to get our County and our State through the public health and economic crises caused by this pandemic, we must act with the best interests of our residents and their health in mind. We cannot, as some have suggested, simply test less to make this virus go away. I look forward to working together to expand testing, contact tracing, and support for those most affected by the spread of COVID-19 across the State of Florida and Miami-Dade County.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniella Levine Cava".

Daniella Levine Cava
Miami-Dade County Commissioner, District 8

CC: Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos A. Giménez
Dr. Yesenia Villalta, Administrator Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County