

## ATASCOSA COUNTY JUDGES REPORT

New data from the Texas Health Department proves what health officials have been trying to tell vaccine-hesitant Texans for months: The COVID-19 vaccine dramatically prevents death and is the best tool to avoid transmitting the deadly virus. According to a report detailing the Texas Department of State Health Services' findings, out of nearly 29,000 Texans who have died from COVID-related illnesses since mid-January, only 8% of them were fully vaccinated against the virus (source — Texas Tribune).

The facts are in. From mid-January 2021 to October, the unvaccinated made up 85% of the deaths in Texas from COVID-19. The unvaccinated casualties amounted to 7,810 during this period. We are in deep sorrow for those who lost their lives. Every loss is tragic. However, based on the statistics in the report, 92% of those 7,810 deaths were avoidable if they had just received the full round of shots that have been available since January of this year.

The report indicates that during the same time, 1,243 who were vaccinated have passed away from COVID-19 in Texas. Of that 1,243, 509 were over 75. The remainder may have had underlying physical conditions. We don't know. Only 3% of 1.5 million positive COVID-19 tests examined since mid-January occurred in people who were already vaccinated (source — Texas Tribune).

We know that survival chances are much better if infected with the shots. My son has had COVID-19 and is doing well. He said it was like a nasty case of the flu. He is a teacher in Arizona, and since none of his household tested positive, he is confident he contracted it at school. You see, Arizona is like Texas because they do not give their schools the right to manage their protocols concerning the COVID-19 pandemic.

Texas public schools require vaccinations for attendance including polio, tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis, mumps, measles, rubella, hepatitis B, varicella, meningococcal and hepatitis A. Why acquiesce to this and yet fight vigorously against COVID-19 protection for the children? The antivaxxers posting on social media have said that the COVID vaccines were not approved. They meant that they had emergency approval and not full approval. Now the full approval is in place. The boosters are now approved fully. The science is proven. Millions of shots have been given and tracked since January. The COVID shots, while not a 100% guarantee, are proven beyond 90% effective. Why wait?

Parents—I just do not understand why you would not protect your children. If you want to risk your own life, that is one thing, but for heaven's sake, why would you risk your children's? Please have your children vaccinated according to the CDC protocols and your physician's advice.

Thanks for listening. Your county government is getting better all the time.