

ATASCOSA COUNTY JUDGES REPORT

I try to be careful in what I say or write, and I have a delicate issue to tell you about. I want to be as accurate as possible in all that I do or say. Which deaths are categorized as COVID deaths is a very sensitive subject. So, when I originally wrote about the sad news on the County Facebook page about David Prasifka's passing I was of the understanding that while he was admitted for treatment for leukemia, his positive testing on COVID19 was what attacked him while his resistance was down and caused his passing. I have been informed by a family member that the official reason for his death is "Acute Leukemia." His death will not be a COVID statistic, so what I wrote originally was not correct. I assure you I had no intention of trying to make it a COVID statistic, I was just trying to get the news out during our time of grieving and shock. When I do get something wrong, I will admit it.

I also refused to be interviewed by the SA Television stations who wanted to include it in their COVID reporting and I did not want to see David's death sensationalized in any way – correctly or incorrectly. I did participate in a rather well-done article by CNN Internet Reporting. I thought it was a very sensitive article. We grieve for David every day. His presence is greatly missed.

On Monday, Commissioners Court voted to combine David's Emergency Management Coordinator duties with those of the Fire Marshal (Roger Garcia). It will give us the crucial EMC function during these difficult times. We will look to add an assistant to the department in the future. Roger will be working closely with Don Penny just as David did. We so appreciate Don working so hard to keep up the reporting in David's absence. I will begin meeting tomorrow morning with Don and Roger just as I used to with Don and David to plan our daily response to this awful pandemic.

Quote of the week, "The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall." -Nelson Mandela

Thanks for listening.

We want you to be proud of your County Government.