

## County Court

221 S. Oregon St. PO Box 427 Condon, OR 97823  
Office: 541.384.6351 Admin: 541.384.3303 Fax: 541.384.3304



May 29, 2020

The Honorable Kate Brown  
Governor, State of Oregon  
254 State Capitol  
Salem OR 97310

Dear Governor Brown,

On behalf of the Gilliam County Court and the communities we represent, I am writing to request your authorization for Gilliam County to enter Phase II of the Reopening Oregon Plan.

As you know, Gilliam County remains 1 of only 2 Oregon counties without a confirmed COVID-19 case. In the face of this pandemic, our citizens have continued to demonstrate incredible resiliency, creativity, compassion, and a strong commitment to protecting the health and safety of our neighbors. I am proud of their response and confident Gilliam County can safely and successfully enter this next phase of recovery.

Attached you will find a letter from North Central Public Health District (NCPHD) Director, Teri Thalhofer, confirming the District has 8 personnel trained and available to perform contact tracing in Gilliam County, as well as a letter from Gilliam County Sheriff, Gary Bettencourt, certifying that Gilliam County continues to maintain sufficient PPE supplies for our first responders. In addition, no substantive changes have occurred since our Phase I application.

The Gilliam County Court believes we have met all of the Phase I and Phase II requirements for reopening, and our communities are ready to safely enter Phase II of the Reopening Plan. I respectfully request authorization to do so effective June 6, 2020.

Please don't hesitate to contact me directly if I can provide you and your team with any additional information. I look forward to your decision.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Farrar  
Gilliam County Judge



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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**NORTH CENTRAL PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT**

*“Caring For Our Communities”*

419 East Seventh Street  
The Dalles, OR 97058-2676  
541-506-2600

May 29, 2020

The Honorable Governor Kate Brown  
State of Oregon  
900 Court Street, NE  
Salem, OR 97031

Governor Brown,  
Gilliam County entered Phase I on May 15, 2020. This was done in cooperation with NCPHD, the local public health authority. Gilliam County is planning to apply to enter Phase II. NCPHD currently has 8 staff members trained and available to do contact tracing and monitoring.

We have been meeting the accountability metrics around contact identification and tracing. I believe this will be borne out by ORPHEUS data when reviewed by OHA.

Sincerely,

Teri Thalhofer, RN, BSN  
Director, NCPHD



# Gilliam County Sheriff's Office

*Gary Bettencourt, Sheriff*

PO Box 685, 221 S. Oregon Street, Condon, OR 97823

541-384-2851- Fax: 541-384-2878

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May 29, 2020

The Honorable Governor Kate Brown  
State of Oregon  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97031

Dear Governor Brown:

Gilliam County reopened on May 15 following the guidance for Phase I. We have been able to maintain zero cases in our County and distributed donated masks and hand sanitizer to the local businesses to help with their reopening plans. We believe we are prepared to safely enter Phase II.

As Sheriff and Director of Emergency Management, I certify that we currently have adequate Personal Protective Equipment to supply our first responders. We have worked to establish supply chains and at this point they are reliable.

Thank you for considering our application for Phase II reopening.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gary Bettencourt', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gary Bettencourt, Sheriff  
EM Director