

## PUTNAM COUNTY SUPERVISORS

Ken Schmitt, Town of Carmel  
Maureen Fleming, Town of Kent  
Richard Williams Sr., Town of Patterson

Richard Shea, Town of Philipstown  
Sam Oliverio, Town of Putnam Valley  
Tony Hay, Town of Southeast

April 2, 2020

To Putnam County State and Federal Elected Officials:

Although Putnam County is a small County (99,000 residents) it is situated north of Westchester County and our border is not static. When looking at percentage of residents testing positive, Putnam County is the fourth leading County (after Westchester, Rockland and Orange) and this is without adequate testing. As the Supervisors of the six Towns that make up the County, we strongly feel that our Putnam County Department of Health is not being given the same considerations as that of the much larger Health Departments in our area.

We are aware that there is a critical shortage of supplies including specimen collection tubes and swabs; however, these limited supplies are not being shared in Putnam County. The Department of Health exhausted their specimen collection supplies after conducting a drive-thru testing event on March 21<sup>st</sup>. They currently have NO ability to administer any COVID-19 testing. Even though the Putnam County Department of Health has requested specimen collection supplies on numerous occasions, their calls have gone unheeded.

There have also been requests to have some type of New York State sponsored drive-thru testing site held within Putnam County. Symptomatic residents must travel to Dutchess, Orange, Ulster, and Westchester or even to Danbury, CT. At this point the Putnam County Department of Health has held three drive-thru testing events at their own facility and would be willing to do this again but require the necessary supplies.

These are critical times and we appeal to you to help the Putnam County Department of Health to obtain these critical testing supplies. We are seeing that supplies go to the counties with the highest number of cases but if we are not testing, we will continue to be left behind. We will also not be able to adequately isolate our residents if they do not know that they have tested positive.

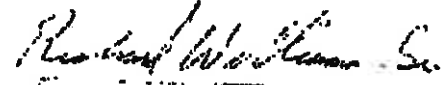
Please contact Kathleen Percacciolo, Supervising Public Health Nurse to discuss the needs of the Department of Health in providing testing to our residents which will ensure their safety. She can be reached by calling 845-808-1390 ext. 43117 or be emailing [Kathleen.Percacciolo@putnamcountyny.gov](mailto:Kathleen.Percacciolo@putnamcountyny.gov).

On behalf of all the fine residents of our County, we would greatly appreciate all efforts that you can provide to make this happen.

Sincerely,

  
Ken Schmitt, Town of ...

  
Maureen Fleming, Town of Kent

  
Richard Williams Sr., Town of Patterson

  
Richard Shea, Town of Philipstown

  
Sam Oliverio, Town of Putnam Valley

  
Tony Hay, Town of Southeast

Cc:

*Honorable Charles E. Schumer, United States Senate*  
*Honorable Kristen Gillibrand, United States Senate*  
*Honorable Sean Patrick Maloney, United States House of Representatives*  
*Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, New York State Governor*  
*Honorable Susan J. Serino, New York State Senate*  
*Honorable Peter Harczuk, New York State Senate*  
*Honorable Sandra R. Galef, New York State Assembly*  
*Honorable Kevin M. Byrne, New York State Assembly*  
*Honorable Carl Heastie, Assembly Speaker, New York State Assembly*  
*Honorable Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes, Majority Leader, New York State Assembly*  
*Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Majority Leader, New York State Senate*  
*Honorable MaryEllen O'Neil, Putnam County Executive*