



# COMMISSIONERS COURT COMMUNICATION

REFERENCE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

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DATE: 10/17/2023

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF DATA SHARING AND USE AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN TARRANT COUNTY, D/B/A TARRANT COUNTY  
PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL  
AND PREVENTION NATIONAL SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE  
PROGRAM**

**\*\*\* CONSENT AGENDA \*\*\***

**COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED**

It is requested that the Commissioners Court approve a Data Sharing and Use Agreement (DUA) between Tarrant County, d/b/a Tarrant County Public Health (TCPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Syndromic Surveillance Program (NSSP).

**BACKGROUND**

In response to the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002, and the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act of 2013, the CDC developed and modified the BioSense Program to establish an integrated system of nationwide public health surveillance of the early detection and prompt assessment of, and response to, potential bioterrorism illness. The program has since evolved into the NSSP. NSSP currently includes a community of practice and a cloud-based syndromic surveillance computing platform (the NSSP BioSense Platform) that hosts submitted data and computing applications that include analytic tools and services.

Syndromic Surveillance is a process that regularly and systematically uses health, and health-related data, in near real-time to provide information on the health of the community for decision-making and enhanced responses to hazardous events and outbreaks. The purpose of this DUA is to establish the basic terms and conditions concerning the contribution of data by the TCPH Department's Syndromic Surveillance program to the NSSP BioSense Platform.

On July 10, 2018, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #128040, approved a DUA with the CDC NSSP with a term of five (5) years, expiring on August 5, 2023.

With approval of this DUA, TCPH will continue sharing electronic health data with the CDC for the NSSP BioSense Platform as defined in the agreement.

The Criminal District Attorney's Office has reviewed this document as to form.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Approval of this agreement will have no fiscal impact.

SUBMITTED BY:	Public Health	PREPARED BY: APPROVED BY:	Rasneet Kumar
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