



CLINT COINTMENT
Parish President

Parish of Ascension

OFFICE of COMMUNICATIONS

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President Cointment, Council Chairwoman Casso, Mayor Arceneaux, Mayor Lambert, Mayor Sullivan, and Sheriff Webre and issue joint statement on wearing masks

In response to increasing numbers of infections in the area, Ascension Parish President Clint Cointment announced today that the Parish is strongly encouraging people to wear face masks or face coverings when out in public, but is not mandating it at this time.

"I have conferred with Parish leaders, and we all concur that we must act to counter the recent rise of infections in Ascension Parish," said Cointment. "We agree that we will not mandate the wearing of masks, but we certainly strongly encourage it."

In a joint conference call, Parish officials felt that the rules and guidelines set by the Governor are effective in slowing the spread of the virus and keeping people safe.

"Businesses, churches, and others can require people to wear masks before entering their establishments," said Cointment. "This accomplishes the same thing without the force of law."

Enforcing a mandate is difficult and not as effective as having people cooperate voluntarily. By wearing masks and following other safe practices, businesses can remain open and economic activity can begin returning to normal.

"Remember: when I wear a mask, I protect you," said Cointment. "And when you wear a mask, you protect me."