



# NEWS RELEASE

**TRAVIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

**P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 25, 2020

## **TCSO Warns of False Traffic Stops Regarding Stay Home, Work Safe Ordinance**

The Travis County Sheriff's Office has received numerous complaints from people who reported that a large, unmarked black SUV like a Tahoe or Escalade pulled them over this morning. In each report, the caller said a male walked to the back bumper of their vehicle and refused to get any closer. The man claimed to be a Travis County Sheriff's Office Deputy and told the drivers to go home, citing the Stay Home/Work Safe Ordinance. When the drivers attempted to present paperwork identifying themselves as essential employees along with their driver's licenses, the man refused to look at the documents and ordered the drivers to go home immediately.

TCSO wants the public to know that traffic stops are conducted by fully marked units. Deputies will be wearing their uniform, will come to the window and will accept identification. If anyone is concerned they are being pursued by someone who may not be a legitimate peace officer, they are advised to put their hazard lights on so the officer will know they're complying, then call 911 to verify that a legitimate traffic stop is happening.

Anyone who may have been stopped by this vehicle today is encouraged to call TCSO and report it.

**Non-Emergency Dispatch: (512) 974-0845, Option 3**

**Tip Line: (512) 854-1444**

###

Submitted By: Kristen Dark, Sr. Public Information Officer (512) 318-5669