Nehls played politics with the health of Texas families by downplaying the risk of coronavirus and saying the worst was behind us in April.

**Apr. 2020: Nehls Praised Trump’s Response To Coronavirus.** NEHLS: “Very well said @DanCrenshawTX.” [Twitter, @SheriffTNehls, 4/22/20]

![Image](image1.png)

**Nehls To Trump: Thank You For Your Leadership Combatting COVID-19.** NEHLS: “Thank you for your leadership combatting COVID-19. Together, we are going to beat this.” [Twitter, @SheriffTNehls, 3/19/20]

![Image](image2.png)

**HEADLINE: “A Detailed Timeline Of All The Ways Trump Failed To Respond To The Coronavirus.”** [Vox, 6/8/20]

**Apr. 2020: Nehls: “I Believe We Have Seen The Worst Of This War And We’re Closer To Victory Than We’ve Ever Been.”** “Lina Hildago announced a countywide mandate for Harris County residents 10 or older to wear face masks at all times in public or be fined $1,000. Well, not in Ft. Bend County. We will not trample on the individual rights of Texans to provide a false sense of security. I have 826 staff at the Ft. Bend Sheriff’s Office. We interact with the public daily. In 3 months, I’ve had just 2 officers test positive. I have over 800 inmates and staff in the jail and not a single positive test. NOT ONE. No one’s been hospitalized. I encourage people to wear a mask if they have one, I encourage people to wash their hands frequently, I encourage people to do the right thing to help
protect our most vulnerable, but this government MANDATE from Harris County is unnecessary, unconstitutional, and unAmerican. It’s an unprecedented overreach which looks more like a communist dictatorship than a free Republic. At this point, I see it as nothing more than politics. Governor Abbott announces a trajectory to start reopening Texas and Harris County, which never even utilized its $60 MILLION pop up hospital at NRG, implements a mandate for face masks on 4 million people. The other counties to do it are Dallas, Bexar, and Travis. These are the 3 most liberal counties in the state of Texas. Coincidence? I don’t think so. I believe we’ve seen the worst of this war. And we’re closer to victory than we’ve ever been. Let’s keep doing our part to be conscious of others when we’re out and make sure to hold government accountable, always.” [Facebook, Sheriff Troy E. Nehls, 4/22/20]