

Michael P. Lopez
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September 21, 2020

Dear Jerome Resident,

As Village President of Jerome, I wanted to talk to you about an important event that is now taking place across the country. It is the US Census. Every ten years the census takes a count of everyone living in the United States. We need your help to assure that everyone is counted in Jerome!

The data is used by the state and federal government in the allocation of funding for government services in Jerome. Funding for programs are all dependent on the census count. It has been reported that this amounts to approximately \$1,200 per person per year. This would be \$4,800 per year for a family of four. For the ten years that the census covers, that would be \$48,000 for that family!

The current self-response rate for Jerome is only 82%. This means that 18% of households in Jerome who received the census survey have not yet responded. This is a major issue. We need to have a complete count to receive adequate funding for our government services. Please complete your census **today**, we really need your help!

There are many ways you can complete the census. You can go online at www.2020census.gov, you can call the US Census number at (844) 330-2020 (open from 6 a.m. to 3 a.m. daily) or if you have the paper survey, you can send it in the postal mail. The whole process normally only takes about ten minutes. That ten minutes will help us for the next ten years. The census data is safe and secure.

If you have not completed the census, please do so today. It does not matter if you own or rent your home, **everyone needs to be counted!** Please make certain you count **everyone** living at your home, regardless if they are related to you. All the census data is confidential.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael P. Lopez".

Michael P. Lopez
Village of Jerome President