OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR GLENN JACOBS

400 Main Street, Suite 615, Knoxville, TN 37902

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 12, 2020

Contact: Mike Donila Abbey Harris

306-1177 cell 215-4579 office

705-1681 cell

Mayor Jacobs to Highlight New UT Face Shield Endeavor

KNOXVILLE, *Tenn*.— The University of Tennessee's Tickle College of Engineering is using 3D printers to create face shields that provide protection from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We talk a lot about the assets we have in our area and this shows you real world results," Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs said. "It's not just that they're working on cool stuff, but they're producing tangible product."

The University's endeavor is one of a number of business highlights Mayor Jacobs wants to focus on during these changing times.

As it stands, officials use 3D printers to design the face shields and then use lasers to form them from the raw materials. From there, workers assemble the parts for distribution.

"Eventually someone on the front lines in the medical field will need this," said Tom Duong, academic support specialist with the University of Tennessee. "It's humbling to see so many groups of people team up and get this done."

The County and Mayor will feature the University of Tennessee's new project on their various social media platforms. The media is welcome to use the videos. Today's is the second in what the county plans to be a series of vignettes during the coming month or so.

###