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August 17, 2020

### COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus, Zapata County

A very difficult day for our Community.

On August 17, 2020, Zapata County has confirmed its second death related to COVID-19. This has been verified by the City of Laredo Health Department Interim Director, Richard Chamberlain who contacted me this afternoon. On behalf of myself and all Zapata County Officials, we want to extend our most sincere condolences to the family.

- Case #2: Male in his 70's

Zapata County has also received confirmation of twenty-one (21) additional COVID-19 cases.

- Case #204: Female in her Teens
- Case #205: Female in her Teens
- Case #206: Male under 1
- Case #207: Female under 5
- Case #208: Female in her 40's
- Case #209: Male in his 40's
- Case #210: Male in his 40's
- Case #211: Male in his 30's
- Case #212: Male in his 40's
- Case #213: Male under 10
- Case #214: Male under 10
- Case #215: Male in his 50's
- Case #216: Male under 1
- Case #217: Male under 5
- Case #218: Female under 10
- Case #219: Male under 5
- Case #220: Female in her Teens
- Case #221: Female in her 30's
- Case #222: Male in his 60's
- Case #223: Female in her Teens
- Case #224: Male in his 20's

The patients are currently isolated. DSHS is supporting Zapata County in identifying any close contacts of the patient so they can be isolated and monitored for symptoms.

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Public Health Region 11 is reminding the public that it is conducting contact investigation on persons who have tested positive to determine possible exposure to others. If the health department has not contacted you, there is no need to take any action at this time.

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Public Health Region 11 and Zapata County continue to work together against COVID-19. We are vigilant and reporting results for COVID-19 in the region. We are also working together to educate and promote social distancing and staying at home.

In order to share facts and not fear, we continue to emphasize the importance of prevention and there are simple steps everyone can take to help prevent spreading the virus:

- Wear a cloth face covering (over the nose and mouth)
- Practice social distancing by staying at least six feet away
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not available, use a 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Stay at home and stop the spread of coronavirus

The public can find up-to-date coronavirus information and what to do if you're sick, testing information at [dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus](https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus)