



Hidalgo County Commissioners Court

Richard F. Cortez
County Judge

David L. Fuentes
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Eduardo "Eddie" Cantu
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Joe M. Flores
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Ellie Torres
Commissioner, Precinct 4

**OFFICE OF
COUNTY JUDGE
RICHARD F. CORTEZ**

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NEWS ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sunday, March 22, 2020

Hidalgo County Has Second Confirmed Case of COVID-19

Hidalgo County health officials have a second confirmed case of COVID-19, Hidalgo County Judge Richard F. Cortez said Sunday.

Health investigators said this case involves a woman whose age was not immediately available and it appears to be travel-related. She has been placed in home isolation by Hidalgo County health officials. The location of her home in Hidalgo County, currently known only to health investigators, was not immediately available. The case was reported to Hidalgo County health officials on Sunday.

Hidalgo County is now at a Level 1 operational structure. Level 1 Operations translate to Maximum Readiness. In this case the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is operational; epidemiological surveillance goes to maximum status; and non-essential government functions are undergoing increased operational review and some modifications may be made.

"We should not be surprised or alarmed that we have a second confirmed case," Judge Cortez said Sunday. "As we have said repeatedly, this is a highly contagious disease and health experts are telling me that we should expect more positive cases. The best way to protect yourselves is to stay home."

Because of federal privacy laws no other information about the patient is immediately available.

Please email Hidalgo County Public Affairs Director Carlos Sanchez at carlos.sanchez@co.hidalgo.tx.us for any questions.

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Hidalgo County is home to one of the fastest growing regions in the nation. We provide health and justice to the over 800,000 residents of our county. We strive to be accessible and responsive to our citizens by providing excellent public service through the values of leadership, transparency, fairness, collaboration, respect and fiscal responsibility. Follow our social media feed at www.co.hidalgo.tx.us/followus