



PRESS RELEASE

June 2, 2020

Reference: COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus Death, Willacy County

Willacy County and the Texas Department of State Health Services Public Health Region 11 have confirmed their second (2) death in Willacy County related to COVID-19.

A Willacy County man in his 60's who had previously tested positive for COVID-19 was being treated in Valley Baptist Harlingen and succumbed to the disease on Saturday, May 30, 2020. We offer our most sincere condolences and our support to the family during this difficult time.

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.

However, if someone is sick they need to stay home. In households with a positive case, there should only be one dedicated caregiver. Other family members must stay apart and practice good hygiene and social distancing. The positive person should be in a dedicated room and must wear a mask and not gather with other family members. The caregiver should also wear a mask when providing care. This is extremely important as evidence points to strong clustering among positive persons. Stay home if you are sick and call your doctor. Do not go to the office, call your doctor first. If it is an emergency, call 9-1-1.

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Public Health Region 11 and Willacy 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.

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

Sincerely,

Dr. Emilie Prot, DO, MPH
Regional Medical Director, Region 11
Department of State Health Services
956-423-0130