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**NEWS
RELEASE**

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COVID-19 Status Update

EL PASO, Texas – The City of El Paso Department of Public Health reported that the County of El Paso remains at a total of six positive cases.

However, the El Paso laboratory has tested one additional positive case from New Mexico; and on Friday, March 20, Fort Bliss confirmed one positive case on post. The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) reports all eight cases for the County of El Paso.

The Public Health Laboratory, which conducts tests for the region, has tested approximately 96 specimen as of Friday, March 20, some of which are sent from outside of the County of El Paso.

The laboratory reported one positive test for a person residing in New Mexico. Details about the case are unknown by the City of El Paso at this time other than the person does not reside in the El Paso County area.

Fort Bliss, which conducts and declares its own tests, advised the public that one soldier has tested positive. The soldier reported for training at Fort Bliss and is now in isolation on the military installation.

The public is reminded that COVID-19 is not an airborne disease like measles. It is spread through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the mouth or nose of people who are nearby or possibly inhaled into the lungs. Preliminary information about COVID-19 shows that about 80 percent of cases are mild and most people do not need hospitalization. However, older adults and people with underlying health conditions like heart disease, lung disease and diabetes are at a greater risk of complications.

DPH officials continue to urge residents to follow prevention measures and stay up-to-date with the latest information by subscribing to both the City and DPH social media platforms, and to visit www.EPHealth.com or www.EPSalud.com for updates.

Additionally the 2-1-1 Texas Call Center is available 24/7. Callers can dial 2-1-1 and select option six for more information. For more information visit www.epstrong.org or www.EPHealth.com and click on the COVID-19 page.

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