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NEWS RELEASE

05 / 29 / 2020

COVID-19 UPDATE City Reports Five More Deaths

EL PASO, **Texas** — The City of El Paso Department of Public Health (DPH) is reporting **five (5)** COVID-19 deaths, bringing the total number of deaths to **77**.

The patients, all of whom had underlying health conditions, include:

- a female in her 60s
- a male in his 70s
- 2 (two) males in their 80s
- a male in his 90s

"We send our sincerest condolences to the families who lost a parent, a grandparent, a spouse, a friend, a loved one to this disease," said Dr. Hector Ocaranza, City/County Local Health Authority.

"What makes this virus even more difficult might be the emotional toll, because if you end up in the hospital, you are isolated and unable to have family and friends comfort you," Ocaranza continued. "We urge the public, especially now as more businesses open up, that while we encourage everyone to support our local economy, be smart about it. Be strict and develop good habits when practicing social distancing, including wearing a mask, washing your hands, staying home if sick and limiting your interaction with loved ones who you know are at high risk."

El Paso is also reporting 54 new COVID-19 cases bringing the county's total number to 2,623. To-date 1,508 people have recovered from COVID-19; and so there are 1,038 active cases within the county.

Health officials continue advising the public that infected persons with little to no symptoms can still spread the virus to others. Our most vulnerable residents such as our seniors, people with underlying health conditions and those who are immunocompromised are at greatest risk of becoming seriously ill or even dying.

Health questions about COVID-19 can be made by calling the 21-COVID hotline. from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For referrals to services, contact 2-1-1 and select option six (6).

For more information, visit www.epstrong.org.

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