



Justin W. Lewis

P.O. Box 457
Hillsboro TX 76645

HILL COUNTY JUDGE

(254) 582-4020
countyjudge@co.hill.tx.us

**Date: April 24, 2020 - For Immediate Release
Press Release**

Hillsboro, TX – The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) has provided further revision on the cases of COVID-19 in Hill County. A male in his sixties from Hillsboro has been added to the list of cases, but he is listed as already recovered. It is an older case that had not previously been reported in the count for Hill County. This case brings the total number of cases to 15 for the county. Statewide numbers report 22,806 cases in Texas with 1,674 patients hospitalized, 593 fatalities and an estimated 9,156 individuals recovered.

“As we said yesterday, we continue to receive new information from DSHS, and we try to share it as soon as we know about it, but it takes time for them to sort through the volume of data they have,” said Hill County Judge Justin Lewis. “I wouldn’t be surprised if we have more revisions like this. It’s just a reminder that even though our number of cases in the county seems relatively small, we still have a threat lurking and reason to be cautious and voluntarily comply with social distancing guidelines and stay home orders” continued Lewis.

“We’ve been operating under protective guidelines for over a month now, and I know everyone is restless and concerned about the future, but we need to focus on the present and take this one day at a time. Hill County will bounce back,” said Lewis. “We’ve seen how quickly everyone was able to mobilize and alter their way of doing business when we became aware of a threat. I have no doubt, we will move with that same determination when it is time to resume normal activities. In the meantime, we must focus our efforts on curtailing the spread of this virus and protecting ourselves, our loved ones, our frontline workers and the most vulnerable of our residents,” stated Lewis.

For residents who have been adversely affected financially by the pandemic, there are a number of resources available to assist Hill County residents. The following lists show the organizations aiding with food and meals and utility bills. The complete list can be found at www.raisinghilltx.com.

Food Assistance

Hillsboro Interfaith Ministries - 254-580-2717, Boys and Girls Club of Hill County - 254-205-2046, Believers Christian Cathedral - 254-582-5765, Whitney Food Bank - 254-694-3155

Utility Bill Assistance

Hillsboro Interfaith Ministries - 254-580-2717, Waco EOAC – 254-759-0331

“No one survives something like this entirely on their own, and I cannot express how grateful we are to have so many organizations and volunteers stepping up to protect our residents,” said Lewis “Thank you never seems like enough, but sometimes, it’s all we have.”

-more-

As limited activities are restarting, it is important to note the Governor's stay-home except for essential activities order is still in place. Residents should continue to take all precautions available to protect their households. More guidelines on the next phases of reopening are expected to come from Governor Abbott's office on April 27th.

For the best information available on the spread of the Coronavirus across Texas, DSHS has a dashboard website available at <https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/>. People interested in monitoring updates from Hill County on the situation will find the most current information on the Hill County Emergency Management Facebook Page. The County will also provide regular updates to *KHBR 1560 AM Radio* and the *Hillsboro Reporter*.

In addition, the County has an emergency notification system. If you would like to receive phone call, text or email updates as warranted, you can register with the Hill County Emergency Notification System. Visit the Office of Emergency Management website at www.hilloem.com, scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on emergency alerts. Follow the prompts to set up your account.