

JUDGE CINDERELA R. GUEVARA



PRESS RELEASE

Reference: COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus, Presidio County

On Tuesday, September 22, 2020 the Texas Department of Health informed Presidio County Judge Cinderela Guevara of 3 new cases in Presidio County, bringing the total cases to 109 confirmed and 4 probable's. Case #108 and #109 are currently isolated.

	<u>Date Isolation Ordered</u>	<u>Perspective Date of Release</u>
Case #107 is a male from Presidio in his twenties	08-17-2020	08-31-2020
Case #108 is a male from Marfa in his fifties	09-15-2020	09-23-2020
Case #109 is a female from Marfa in her forties		09-29-2020

While this case is being reported on a timely basis, to you the public, you may still receive future notifications of "straggler cases". That is to say that the state in handling an overload of testing results cannot act on cases it knows nothing about. As the Texas Department of Health receives notices of cases with inception and recovery dates that have passed, that will in turn yield the County Emergency Department to report cases in an untimely basis. The purpose of continuing to report cases in that manner is only for the purpose of keeping you, the public, informed of an accurate and realistic count of cases truly existant in our community and in our county. I have been informed by the Texas Department of Health Services that they are doing everything they possibly can to centralize the process for collecting, sorting, and sending the results from the many testing contractors in a more efficient and timely manner.

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Public Health Region 9/10, Local Health Authority and Presidio 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.

In order to share facts and not fear, we continue to emphasize the importance of prevention and there are simple steps everyone can take to help prevent the virus:

- Three W's to ward off COVID-19:
- Wearing a mask, washing your hands, and watching your distance
- The lastest forecast for the Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation suggests that 33,000 deaths could be avoided by October 1, 2020 if 95 percent of people wear masks in public.

In a paper from the "Journal of General Internal Medicine" it was proposed that masks can lead to a milder or asymptomatic infections by cutting down on the dose of virus people take in. According to Monica Gandhi, MD an infection disease specialist at UC San Francisco, "Masks can prevent many infections altogether, we are also saying that masks which filter out a majority of viral particles can lead to a less severe infection if you do get one."

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,

Cinderela R. Guevara
Presidio County Judge