COVID-19 PERIODIC UPDATE

JULY 20, 2020

Greetings from the offices of the Bee County Judge and the Mayor of the City of Beeville. In an effort to reduce the length of this update, we have removed information on previous daily updates. Please know that you can access the full text of all prior daily updates on our Bee OEM Facebook page.

CASE UPDATE

Since the last Covid-19 Periodic Update, dated July 9, 2020, DSHS has notified Bee County of the following fourteen (14) additional community cases (which simply means "non-TDCJ inmate"):

Case No. 160 – Female in her 10's (confirmed 7.18.20);

Case No. 161 – Female between 0-9 (confirmed 7.18.20);

Case No. 162 – Female in her 10's (confirmed 7.19.20);

Case No. 163 – Male in his 60's (confirmed 7.19.20);

Case No. 164 – Female in her 10's (confirmed 7.19.20);

Case No. 165 – Male in his 20's (confirmed 7.19.20);

Case No. 166 – Male in his 10's (confirmed 7.19.20);

Case No. 167 – Female in her 60's (confirmed 7.19.20);

Case No. 168 – Male in his 60's (confirmed 7.19.20);

Case No. 169 – Female in her 40's (confirmed 7.19.20);

Case No. 170 – Male in his 80's (confirmed 7.19.20);

Case No. 171 – Female in her 40's (confirmed 7.19.20);

Case No. 172 – Female in her 20's (confirmed 7.19.20); and

Case No. 173 – Male in his 30's (confirmed 7.19.20).

As of 10:00 p.m. Sunday evening, July 19, 2020, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services ("DSHS") Dashboard,[1] Bee County currently has

111 active cases;
106 recovered cases; and
220 total cases (non-prisoner and prisoner) since tracking began.

The Dashboard also reflects one fatality in Bee County.

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[1]. The DSHS dashboard is found at: https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/coronavirus/.

DSHS updates its dashboard around 4pm daily, so the dashboard may not yet reflect all new cases at the time they are reported.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice ("TDCJ") Dashboard,[2] reflects a total of 29 active cases—18 in the McConnell Unit, 8 in the Garza West Unit, and 3 in the Garza East Unit. The TDCJ Dashboard reflects 17 "recovered" inmate cases. These numbers are fluctuating downward and upward, whereas our community case count only fluctuates upward, which impacts the confirmed total case count, but the larger data set of total cases means that the impact of the TDCJ fluctuation is less dramatic, but the issue persists.

With a total of 46 inmate cases, and 173 community cases, the Bee County confirmed total is: **219 total cases since tracking began.**

Bee County is situated in DSHS Region 11. Region 11 tracks non-inmate COVID-19 cases in Bee County, including contact tracing and quarantine management. The DSHS Dashboard, on the other hand, is maintained by DSHS in Austin, and in Austin, DSHS counts both non-inmate and inmate cases together.[3]

We will provide a local hospital update in the next Periodic Update.

BEE COUNTY COVID-19 HOTLINE AND DRIVE-THROUGH TESTING FACILITY

Please contact our Hotline—**361-492-5981**—for COVID-19 questions and to conduct pre-screening interviews for COVID-19 testing at our Drive-Through Testing Facility.

Our hotline is short-staffed and the volume of calls has risen dramatically. Please be patient and continue to try to get through.

PARTING SHOTS

We want to re-iterate that COVID-19 can, and does, infect <u>all</u> ages of people. From 1 day old to 100 years old or more. For any COVID-19 patient under the age of 20, we will only identify that individual as "under 20".

You cannot interact with a person not of your own household without the associated risk of contracting COVID-19. Ignore that and one of these case numbers may be for you in the future.

Since many of us are working and interacting daily with many people that we do not live with, there are countless avenues of transmission for COVID-19 to spread amongst our community. It literally takes all of our collective effort to reduce those pathways for

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2.   The TDCJ dashboard is found at: https://www.tdcj.texas.gov/covid-19/mac_dashboard.html.

3.   Please refer to the COVID-19 Periodic Update, dated June 22, 2020, located at the Bee OEM Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/Bee-OEM-273471659982710/, for further detail regarding "community cases" and the renumbering of non-offender Bee County COVID-19 cases.

COVID-19. Each of us, as a potential carrier or recipient of the virus, plays an important role on where COVID-19 goes.

But, we do have simple effective tools at our disposal to reduce COVID's spread. We can actually embrace "social distancing" for all interactions, not just the ones with people we don't know well. We can actually embrace mask wearing instead of railing against the fact that we are being ordered to wear a mask. And we can get back to vigorous hand washing supplemented with hand sanitizing when washing is not an immediate option.

Make no mistake, every time one of us lets our guard down, decides that the guidelines, orders, and reasonable requests do not apply to our particular situation—every time— we become a part of the pathway for COVID-19. Don't be part of the pathway; be a dead end, a stop sign, a barrier.