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**NEWS
RELEASE**

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COVID-19 UPDATE

City Reports Seven Additional Deaths

EL PASO, Texas—The City of El Paso Department of Public Health (DPH) is reporting **seven (7)** additional COVID-19 deaths, bringing the total number of deaths to **109**.

All except one of the patients had underlying health conditions. They include:

- a female in her 60s, with no underlying conditions
- a male in his 50s
- four (4) males in their 60s
- a female in her 70s

“We send our sincere condolences to the loved ones of our latest COVID-19 victims. We also urge El Pasoans to do their part to protect themselves and protect our most vulnerable,” said Dr. Hector Ocaranza, City/County Local Health Authority. “Our community should understand that while we might see the number of cases decrease on some days we cannot waiver in sustaining strict protective healthy habits such as frequent handwashing, social distancing and wearing face coverings.”

Health officials noted that all seven deaths did not occur on the same day; however, the data from the investigations, to include gathering of medical records, death certificates and pertinent information from each case was obtained on the same day.

El Paso is also reporting **37** new COVID-19 cases bringing the county’s total number to **3,948**. To-date 2,795 people have recovered from COVID-19; and so there are 1,044 active cases within the county.

The public is reminded that there is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. At this time, the best way to prevent illness is to avoid exposure to this virus. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) the virus mainly spreads via person-to-person contact:

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within 6 feet);
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks;
- These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.

Anyone with health questions about COVID-19 can call the 21-COVID hotline (915) 212-6843, 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 health and social services, contact 2-1-1 and select option six (6). For more information, visit www.epstrong.org.

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