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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DeWitt County updates on voluntary testing of COVID-19

DeWitt County received word today from the Department of State Health Services that voluntary COVID-19 testing performed at the Cuero Municipal Library on April 25 yielded zero positive results. Staff of the Texas Medical Services Mobile Unit performed 41 tests on DeWitt County residents who exhibited at least one potential symptom of COVID-19. Twelve other individuals were tested at the same location. The twelve were residents of other counties and only one of those tests confirmed a positive diagnosis.

“I am pleased to receive this good report from DSHS,” says County Judge Daryl Fowler. “It appears that the drastic measures employed by the governor through his executive orders and the public’s serious approach to ‘flattening the curve’ are paying off.”

A total of fifteen cases have been diagnosed in DeWitt County since Governor Greg Abbott declared a state of emergency on March 13, 2020. State health officials report that nine previously diagnosed cases of COVID-19 have been cleared and the patients have fully recovered. Two remaining positive case are quarantined and recovering at home. One patient is currently hospitalized.

In an effort to slow the spread of this infectious disease, Texas Governor Greg Abbott issued Executive Orders encouraging people to “stay home” and “stay safe.” His latest series of executive orders are geared toward reopening Texas businesses and parks.

Individuals may be exposed to COVID-19 and be infectious even when no symptoms are present. If you believe you have been exposed, monitor yourself closely for symptoms such as fever, cough, sore throat, and shortness of breath for 14 days after the exposure. If you experience any of these symptoms and do not need urgent medical attention, isolate at home and contact your healthcare provider.

The judge and emergency management personnel are communicating daily with state officials and regional leaders about the spread of the COVID-19 virus and referring callers to the

official websites of the Centers for Disease Control and the Texas Department of State Health Services. These websites are great resources for the general public according to Judge Fowler.

The public can find up-to-date coronavirus information at the Texas Department for State Health Services dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus and the Centers for Disease Control at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus> and DeWitt County at www.co.dewitt.tx.us and on the Facebook Page of DeWitt County Office of Emergency Management.

The governor's office is also providing information and links to the Executive Orders through the website www.governor.texas.gov

-30-

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