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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DeWitt County reports additional COVID-19 infections and recoveries

County health officials report that there are **five (5)** additional (confirmed) cases of the novel coronavirus. **Four (4)** of the individuals are located in the Cuero zip code. **One (1)** individual is located in the Yorktown zip code. **Ten (10)** additional individuals have recovered. The death toll stands at **fifty (50)**.

One existing patient has been removed from the total case count because they are residents of another county. After accounting for the loss, a total of **915 cases** have been diagnosed in DeWitt County since Governor Greg Abbott declared a state of emergency on March 13, 2020. Currently, **forty-two (42)** cases are considered active. Of the total, **thirty-eight (38)** individuals are isolating at home. **Four (4)** are considered inpatients of medical facilities. Following the recent audit, the county believes the number of recoveries stands at **eight hundred sixty-one (861)**.

Approximately **63 percent** of the **74,507** confirmed cases and approximately **61 percent** of the **1,838** deaths attributable to COVID-19 in DSHS Region 8 have occurred in Bexar County where the county judge has issued an executive order requiring retail business employees and customers to wear face masks when social distancing is not possible. There are approximately 3.1 million people in the 28 counties that make up Region 8. DSHS data is current through **September 29, 2020**.

In an effort to slow the spread of this infectious disease, Texas Governor Greg Abbott has issued Executive Orders during this period of emergency. His latest executive order continues to expand occupancy limits in certain businesses in Texas, as well as, open medical facilities for elective surgery and allow visitation at nursing homes in regions where hospitalization of COVID-19 patients is below a recommended ceiling. The Trauma Service Area (TSA) which includes Victoria and DeWitt Counties is above the ceiling and ineligible for further economic expansion at this present time. The list of trauma service areas can be obtained at www.dshs.texas.gov/ga3031.

The county 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

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