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Press Release**

Hillsboro, TX – According to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) the number of COVID-19 cases remained steady at fifteen over the weekend. Statewide numbers report 25,297 cases in Texas with 1,563 patients hospitalized, 663 fatalities and an estimated 11,170 individuals recovered.

“We are grateful our number of cases held steady over the weekend,” said Hill County Judge Justin Lewis. “However, as testing becomes more readily available and DSHS has more time to review the data collected, we do anticipate that our case numbers will continue to grow,” continued Lewis. “We cannot let our guard down yet. We must remain steadfast in our efforts to protect ourselves and our neighbors and gradually resume normal activities as recommended by medical experts and supported by our State.”

Today, Governor Greg Abbott is expected to release information on the timeline and plan for the next phases of reopening the economy. As more information becomes available, Hill County will relay it, so residents and businesses will know how they will be affected.

“We are working to gather and process information as quickly as possible,” said Lewis “We do not have insight on what the Governor will say today, and we are anxiously awaiting that information as everyone else is. Until we are able to update everyone, please continue to watch out for one another and support our local businesses and frontline workers as best you can.”

As limited activities are restarting, it is important to note the Governor’s stay-home except for essential activities order is still in place. Residents should continue to take all precautions available to protect their households. If individuals or businesses need assistance during this time, please visit the website, www.raisinghill.com, for a listing of available resources in our area.

For the best information available on the spread of the Coronavirus across Texas, DSHS has a dashboard website available at <https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/>. People interested in monitoring updates from Hill County on the situation will find the most current information on the Hill County Emergency Management Facebook Page. The County will also provide regular updates to *KHBR 1560 AM Radio* and the *Hillsboro Reporter*.

In addition, the County has an emergency notification system. If you would like to receive phone call, text or email updates as warranted, you can register with the Hill County Emergency Notification System. Visit the Office of Emergency Management website at www.hilloem.com, scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on emergency alerts. Follow the prompts to set up your account.