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Press Release**

**Hillsboro, TX** – The number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Hill County remains at 24, however, another new recovery was reported today. This change reported by the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) means of the 24 cases there are 14 recoveries, 6 active cases, 3 lost-to-follow-up (two listed as not active, 1 is active), and 1 deceased. Statewide numbers on the DSHS website as of 5:30pm show 59,976 cases in Texas with 1,692 patients hospitalized, and 1,601 fatalities. 38,905 of the cases are estimated to be recovered while 19,270 of the cases are still listed as active, according to DSHS.

“We are pleased with the trend of our numbers over the last few days, and we need it to continue in this direction for a while longer,” said Hill County Judge Justin Lewis. “Across the state, we are continuing to see new cases added on a daily basis, but as long as the recoveries are higher than the active cases, we are in a fairly good place,” stated Lewis.

“May 31<sup>st</sup> is the day the next set of restrictions are lifted and our economic, recreational and social activity options will continue to increase,” said Lewis. “We are anxious to return to many of the things we have been missing over the last few months, and it is necessary to reincorporate all of this into our daily lives. Please find ways to support our local businesses and help our neighbors that may be struggling at this time, but do not lose focus on the safety protocols we need to follow to keep all of these positive developments happening. Thank you for all you have done to help Hill County weather this storm, but please remember we’re in a marathon, not a sprint. Sometimes it feels like we’re saying the same thing over and over, and I don’t like repeating myself, but that’s how important this message truly is,” finished Lewis.

Information on the guidelines to follow as business operations and recreational activities reopen can be found at <https://gov.texas.gov/opentexas>.

Information on the spread of the Coronavirus across Texas is available at the DSHS dashboard website, <https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/>. To monitor updates from Hill County, the most current information will be provided on the Hill County Emergency Management Facebook Page and *KHBR 1560 AM Radio* and the *Hillsboro Reporter*.