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# COVID-19 Update

## City Officials Warn Residents to Comply

**EL PASO, Texas** — The City of El Paso Public Health Department is reporting **8** new COVID-19 cases bringing the county’s total number to **300**, the number of deaths remains at **two**.

Positive cases in El Paso County include 153 females and 147 males; see accompanying graphics and map. There are now 58 patients who are hospitalized, and 23 of those hospitalized are currently in ICU.

“We continue to urge residents to stay home and use a face covering when out performing essential duties or tasks,” said Dr. Hector Ocaranza, City/County Health Authority. “This is a true emergency and we need everyone to take responsibility and insist on strict cooperation. We cannot do this without the community taking some level of accountability for their own health, and that of their family, friends and neighbors.”

Stay Home, Work Safe orders have been extended to May 17,2020 and residents are directed to stay home and only go out for essential business. Code enforcement officers are responding to incidents where businesses and individuals are violating the order. During the Easter weekend 319 complaints were reported, 311 warnings were issued and 8 citations given.

“Citations can cost an individual up to \$1,000 or up to 180 days in jail, additionally businesses risk losing their City permits. Peace officers and the Fire Marshal Office, are authorized to enforce this Directive,” said Jorge Rodriguez, Emergency Management Coordinator.

The signs and symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough and shortness of breath. If these symptoms appear and do not improve, the person should contact their healthcare provider or seek medical attention. Individuals should be careful not to touch their eyes, nose and mouth when removing their face covering and wash their hands immediately after removing the covering.

The 21-COVID hotline is operational from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For referral to services contact 2-1-1 and select option six (6). For more information, visit [www.epstrong.org](http://www.epstrong.org).

**[Jorge Rodriguez, Emergency Management Coordinator – Interview: Enforcement Violation](#)**

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**Media Contact: Soraya Ayub Palacios**  
Lead Public Affairs Coordinator  
915.212.1040  
915.781.4386