COUNTY OF HIDALGO, EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (EOC)

SUBJECT: H1N1 Flu (Formerly known as Swine Flu)

SITUATION REPORT #1

DATE AND TIME COVERED: Friday, May 1, 2009, 8:00 a.m. through Friday, May 1, 2009, 4:00 p.m.

1. **CURRENT SITUATION:** Due to the health emergency that exists in the State of Texas, the Rio Grande Valley and counties directly adjacent to Hidalgo County.

   As of May 1, 2009, Hidalgo County Health & Human Services has received notification from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) that in the County of Hidalgo, there are zero (0) confirmed cases, one (1) probable case and 48 suspect cases. Suspect is defined as exhibiting ALL of the following symptoms: Fever above 100 degrees, body ache, diarrhea, vomiting, respiratory complications, sore throat and coughing.

   Orders have not been issued by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and DSHS for the use of masks for the general public. The only masking recommendations are as follows: For emergency responders, law enforcement, hospital emergency room staff. If a patient or client exhibits flu-like symptoms, mask the patient/client in question. This is a droplet borne disease, not airborne. Follow Tuberculosis (TB) protocols and use droplet precautions. School districts may decide on their own if masks should be used in their schools, but it has not been ordered or recommended by the CDC or DSHS.

   Hidalgo County is working with the State, which has authorized the deployment of testing supplies to Hidalgo County for distribution throughout the County. The supplies have not been received by Hidalgo County Health & Human Services as of yet.

   Hidalgo County has activated the Hidalgo County Swine Flu Information Hotline, open from 08:30 to 17:00, daily. The number is 1-866-613-5277.

   The Hidalgo County Prescription Drug Discount Card does provide a discount for Tamiflu and Relenza, with a valid U.S. doctor's prescription, at a local participating pharmacy. For more information, contact Hidalgo County Judge's Office, 956-318-2600 or visit the Hidalgo County website: www.hidalgo.co.tx.us.

   Mexican Consulate: As of May 1, 2009, there are zero (0) confirmed cases along the Mexican side of the Texas/Mexico border.

Independent School Districts: School closures in Hidalgo County include all campuses in the Weslaco ISD, until May 8th. No other schools have been closed in Hidalgo County.

Hidalgo County Health & Human Services does not recommend cancellation of school or child activities, with the exception of Weslaco ISD. If any child involved in the school or child activity shows any of the flu-like symptoms, send the child home. For districts other than Weslaco ISD, the only school activities to consider cancelling would be those activities involving students with medical special needs, whom are more susceptible to contracting the H1N1 flu.

Texas Department of State Health Services: For general information use the DSHS website: www.dshs.state.tx.us/swineflu.

State Operations Center (SOC): For the SOC situation report, visit the Governor's Division of Emergency Management website: www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem.

United States Health & Human Services (HHS): For national H1N1 Flu information and associated travel alerts, the CDC website is: http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/.

2. AREAS AFFECTED BY EVENT:

Rio Grande Valley Impact: Cameron County, Hidalgo County, Starr County, Willacy County.

Hidalgo County Impact: City of Weslaco

3. RESPONDING AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS AND RESOURCES COMMITTED:

Health & Human Services	Incident Command
Emergency Services Division	Support staff for IC / IAP / Sit-Rep
County Judge's Office	Public Information
Safety Division	Monitor County Departments
Budget & Management	Budget allocations
Purchasing	Resource Procurement
Auditor	Documentation
Buildings & Grounds	Sanitation
Information Technology	Technology support
Workforce Solutions	Hotline operators

4. CASUALTIES: No fatalities in Hidalgo County.

5. **EVACUATIONS:** None.

6. **SHELTERS:** None.

COMMENTS:

Hidalgo County Health & Human Services and Emergency Services are monitoring the situation and will issue additional reports as necessary.

The EOC will be open on Saturday and Sunday – operational from 08:30 – 17:00
The Call Center will be open on Saturday and Sunday – operational from 08:30 - 1700

Judge J.D. Salinas, III – County Judge
Eduardo "Eddie" Olivarez – Incident Commander
AA "Tony" Pena - Emergency Management Coordinator