



## Communications & Marketing

Friday, March 20, 2020

City of Brownsville

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### MEDIA ADVISORY

## Notice from Brownsville City Manager Noel Bernal to City Employees

### City of Brownsville Employees, (Effective March 20,2020)

Effective today, March 20, 2020, The City of Brownsville's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will implement virtual operations that include telework activation.

I commend the work of our Executive Team, support staff, and the EOC in pushing innovation by creating new telework strategies that support the emergency situation we face. We face a pandemic with many variables and are preparing to handle the continuity of operations and services to our community over the long-term. We cannot limit our preparation during this uncertain time.

We are early in the COVID-19 pandemic with the first travel-related confirmed case in Cameron County being made yesterday. We also face an incident within our organization that has caused us to take precautionary measures in an effort to ensure your safety in what has been characterized as a low-risk situation.

At approximately 9:00 pm, on March 19, 2020, The EOC was informed of an unfortunate circumstance at in which an employee was in the Central Library that had traveled to Europe within the past ten (10) days. As a precautionary measure, we are initiating our telework plan as part of our organization-wide continuity plan during emergency scenarios. The employee will be tested for COVID-19 and expect the results of the test within one (1) – three (3) days. Again, we consider this to be a very low risk scenario. The employee has no symptoms of the illness.

We are being proactive with extra safety measures and would like to remind you of the following:

- Please notify your supervisor if you have traveled to a quarantined city.
- Practice social distancing to mediate risk.
- Wash your hands frequently and do not touch your face.

We will get through this together and the safety of our employees is our top priority.

Sincerely,

Noel Bernal

City Manager



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