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PLEASE DISTRIBUTE THIS WIDELY

Hello to all. Earlier today (Thursday 3/19/2020) the Otero County Health Department (OCHD) received a report on a resident from Crowley County that died, and has tested presumptively positive for the COVID-19 virus. First and foremost, our sincerest condolences go out to the family and friends of this individual. We are sorry for their loss.

Out of respect for patient privacy and out of respect for the family, we will only release the following information (No other information will be released):

- ✓ The patient
 - was a resident of Crowley County
 - was elderly
 - had other multiple, chronic medical conditions, was in the high risk group

Members of my staff are now in Crowley County performing contact investigations, and quarantine is being ordered as I write this.

I am committed to being transparent to the communities in Crowley and Otero Counties, so that is why I am releasing this before confirmatory testing, which could be many days away due to severe laboratory overload.

If you need to talk to someone from OCHD regarding this, we have a special line reserved. Please call 719-383-3050 between the hours of 8am and 5pm, Monday-Friday. If they are the phone, leave a message and they will return your call when they are able.

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