

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Possible exposure to COVID-19 positive individuals at Abilene area Walmart

***CORRECTION: This notice pertains to Abilene's Southwest Drive Walmart, not the Highway 351 Walmart previously reported.***

ABILENE, Texas – The Abilene Taylor County Public Health District would like to notify the public of possible exposure to individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 at Abilene's southside Walmart located at 4350 Southwest Drive.

The first infected individual reports she and a child visited the Southwest Drive Walmart between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. on April 2, 2020. The individual reports returning to the store for another item between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. on April 2, 2020.

A second individual infected with COVID-19 worked at the Southwest Drive Walmart deli counter on April 3, 2020 between the hours of 4 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

The Abilene Taylor County Public Health District advises individuals who were at the store during those time frames on April 2 or 3, 2020 to self-quarantine through April 16 or 17, 2020 to ensure that if someone becomes infectious, they will not spread the disease to other people.

Through the Health District's investigation with the infected individuals, it has been determined these periods of time at the Southwest Drive Walmart are the only identified points of exposure and risk of infection to the general public. All other individuals who may be at risk of having contracted COVID-19 from these infected individuals have been contacted by the Health District.

The Abilene Taylor-County Public Health District urges area residents to protect themselves, and our medically fragile community members from the spread of COVID-19 by:

- Practicing social distancing, and staying home as much as possible
- Washing or sanitizing hands often
- Covering sneezes and coughs
- Avoid touching your face
- Staying home if you are sick
- Routinely cleaning commonly touched surfaces

If an individual feels they may be showing symptoms for COVID-19, it is important they first call their medical provider or the Abilene Taylor-County Public Health District at 325.692.5600 for screening and further instruction. Please do not arrive at a medical office, facility, or hospital without first making contact by phone and receiving instruction.

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