FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
December 21, 2021

COVID-19 Update for Montgomery County
Status Update from the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

MONTGOMERY COUNTY – Montgomery County Public Health District, in conjunction with the Montgomery County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, would like to continue to encourage eligible residents to be vaccinated for COVID-19. Every new emerging variant emphasizes the need for vaccinations and booster shots for eligible populations. Need to find a vaccine or a vaccine booster shot? Click here for vaccine sites: https://www.vaccines.gov/.

Just a reminder, since the transition to the NEDSS database managed by the CDC, we have standardized our reporting to match Department of State Health Services (DSHS) reporting. All data definitions are now consistent with DSHS. They can be found here: https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/DataDefinitions.aspx.

We report weekly on Tuesdays, but DSHS updates daily at this link: https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/45e18cba105c478697c76acbbf86a6bc.

Please note, the next MCPHD report will be next Wednesday, December 29th as our staff observes the Christmas holiday.

Since our last report on 12/14/2021:

- TOTAL cases of COVID-19 increased by 1,512 to 91,865. *Total cases include confirmed (PCR testing) and probable (antigen testing) cases.*

- ACTIVE cases of COVID-19 increased by 1,115 to 2,244 (estimated per DSHS definitions).

- Deaths of Montgomery County residents have increased by 9 to 1,131 since the start of the pandemic in March 2020, according to data from DSHS.

- Recoveries from COVID-19 have increased by 389 to 88,490 since the start of the pandemic in March 2020 (estimated per DSHS definitions).
- 58 confirmed cases of COVID-19 are currently hospitalized in Montgomery County. SETRAC data for regional hospitalizations can be found here: https://bit.ly/3jwhdiV.

The Testing Positivity Rate for Montgomery County has increased to 6%, up from 5% last week.
Source: UT Health, School of Public Health

The COVID-19 dashboard for Montgomery County can be found here: https://coronavirus-response-moco.hub.arcgis.com/.

Do your part to slow the spread of COVID-19. The best way to protect yourself and those around you is to be vaccinated. You should also:

- *Get tested if you feel sick.*
- *Avoid groups of people.*
- *Practice social distancing.*
- *Wear a mask in public (over your nose and mouth) or with others who live outside your household. Never share a mask with others.*
- *Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer frequently.*
- *Disinfect surfaces in your car and around your home.*

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