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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **DCHHS Reports the Sixth West Nile Virus Human Case in Dallas County**

**Dallas (August 1, 2024)** – Dallas County Health and Human Services (DCHHS) reports the sixth West Nile Virus (WNV) human case in Dallas County for the 2024 season. The patient is a female resident of the City of Dallas in the 75230-zip code diagnosed with West Nile Neuroinvasive Disease (WNND). Due to patient confidentiality, DCHHS does not disclose patient information.

“The recent confirmation of our sixth West Nile Virus case in Dallas County underscores the importance of ongoing prevention efforts,” said Dr. Philip Huang, DCHHS Director. “As mosquito activity intensifies, residents are urged to be vigilant and practice the 4 Ds to protect themselves and their families from this potentially serious illness.”

- **DEET:** Whenever outside, use insect repellents that have the active ingredient DEET or other EPA-registered repellents, and always follow label instructions.
- **DRESS:** Wear long, loose, and light-colored clothing outside.
- **DRAIN:** Drain or treat all standing water in and around your home or workplace where mosquitoes could lay eggs.
- **DUSK to DAWN:** Limit your time outdoors from dusk to dawn when mosquitoes are most active.

WNV is a disease that is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes can become infected when they feed on the blood of infected birds. The infected mosquitoes can then transmit WNV to humans and animals. Severe WNV infections can cause neurologic complications such as encephalitis. Milder symptoms include fever, headache, and muscle aches. There is no vaccine or specific treatment for WNV. For more information, visit our website: <https://www.dallascounty.org/departments/dchhs/communicable-diseases/west-nile-virus.php>

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