11 ADDITIONAL CONFIRMED CASES OF DENGUE FEVER IN MONROE COUNTY

~ Health Department Continues Mosquito-Borne Illness Alert ~



Contact:

Alison Kerr Brandie Peretz 305-619-8087 305-619-7322

Alison.Kerr@flhealth.gov Brandie.Peretz@flhealth.gov

Monroe County, FL—To better understand the extent of the Dengue fever outbreak in Monroe County, the Florida Department of Health has been working with the community to identify individuals who recovered from the mosquito-borne illness earlier in the year. Through these efforts, an additional 11 confirmed cases of Dengue fever have been found in the Key Largo area through antibody testing. These cases had onset dates ranging from April 30, 2020 to July 10, 2020. When these cases were identified previously as persons of interest, the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District was notified, and appropriate mosquito control measures were conducted immediately.

These 11 additional confirmed cases of Dengue elevate the total this year in Monroe County to 37.

The emergence of these Dengue cases reinforces the importance for the public to prevent insect bites and to take basic precautions to help limit exposure. These measures include intact windows and screens and the use of air conditioning, keeping the area around your residence free from containers that collect water, wearing protective clothing and the appropriate use of insect repellents. The Department reminds all residents to drain all standing water at least once per week.

For more information, visit <u>www.floridahealth.gov/dengue</u> or <u>www.keysmosquito.org</u>. If you are experiencing any symptoms or have additional questions, please call DOH-Monroe at 305-293-7500 and choose option 3.

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