

FRIO COUNTY



EXECUTIVE ORDER OF COUNTY JUDGE ARNULFO C. LUNA ISSUED March 19, 2020

WHEREAS, in December, 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan City, Hubel Province, China. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Outcomes have ranged from mild to severe illness, and in some cases death;

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) Director General declared the outbreak of COVID-19 as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), advising countries to prepare for the containment, detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing and prevention of onward spread of the disease;

WHEREAS, to date, there have been numerous positive cases in Texas;

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, March 11, 2020, the WHO declared that the crisis is now a pandemic after it has infected roughly 189,000 people around the world and killed 7,511 people. Over 10,442 cases have been confirmed in the United States according to the Center for Disease Control (CDC);

WHEREAS, according to the WHO, the virus is characterized by mild symptoms including a runny nose, sore throat, cough and fever, similar to the influenza where in severe cases can lead to pneumonia or difficulty breathing;

WHEREAS, those with symptoms who have traveled or been in contact with an individual who has traveled to a country that has the COVID-19 Virus in the last two weeks is urged to see their physician;

WHEREAS, the disease can be fatal and especially dangerous to older individuals and high-risk populations, such as those with asthma, diabetes or heart disease;

WHEREAS, President Donald J. Trump has declared a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, the County Judge may declare a local state of disaster in and for the County, and may exercise the powers granted therein on an

appropriate local scale;

WHEREAS, a declaration of local disaster and public health emergency includes the ability to reduce the possibility of exposure to disease, control the risk, promote health, compel persons to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of disease, including isolation, surveillance, quarantine, or placement of persons under public health observation, including the provision of temporary housing or emergency shelters for persons misplaced or evacuated and request assistance from the governor of state resources;

WHEREAS, by this declaration, I declare all rules and regulations that may inhibit or prevent prompt response to this threat suspended for the duration of the incident;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted to the County Judge under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, I authorize the use of all available resources of state government and political subdivisions to assist in the County's response to this situation; and

WHEREAS, I, Arnulfo C. Luna, the County Judge and presiding officer of Frio County, have determined that in order to remain consistent with the Declaration of Public Health Emergency to be issued by the City of Pearsall and issued by the City of Dilley, extraordinary and immediate measures must be taken to respond quickly, prevent and alleviate the suffering of people exposed to and those infected with the virus, as well as those that could potentially be infected or impacted by COVID-19 throughout Frio County.

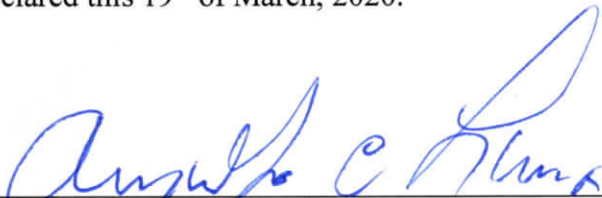
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF THE COUNTY OF FRIO:

1. That a local state of disaster and public health emergency is hereby declared throughout Frio County pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
2. Pursuant to §418.108(b) of the Government Code, the state of disaster and public health emergency shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the Frio County Commissioners Court.
3. Pursuant to §418.108(c) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster and public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
4. Pursuant to §418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster and public health emergency activates Frio County's Emergency Management Plan as well as all appropriate recovery and rehabilitation aspects of the emergency management plan and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance as necessary or appropriate.
5. Pursuant to the authority granted under the laws of the State of Texas, this declaration authorizes Frio County to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress disease throughout Frio County, including quarantine, examining and regulating hospitals,

regulating ingress and egress throughout Frio County and any impacted areas.

6. Pursuant to the statutory authority vested in me as the presiding officer of the County of Frio, in coordination and consultation with the Local Health Authority and the City of Pearsall further issue additional guidance and restrictions as set out within the Declaration Regarding Public and Private Gatherings and Related Matters effective until further notice for the duration of this Declaration, attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "1."
7. As the County Judge and presiding officer of the County of Frio, I further reserve all other authority and powers conferred by state law to respond as necessary to the situation which is the subject of this Declaration.

This Declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.
Declared this 19th of March, 2020.



ARNULFO C. LUNA
Frio County Judge

FILED
At 4:17 o'clock P M
This 19 day of March 2020


Aaron T. Ibarra
Clerk County Court FRIO COUNTY, TX
BY:  DEPUTY

EXHIBIT 1

PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS DISASTER ACT OF 1975, FRIO COUNTY JUDGE ARNULFO C. LUNA HEREBY ISSUES THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

1. Effective as of 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, March 19, 2020, and continuing until 11:00 a.m. Sunday, April 19, 2020:
 - (a) That all indoor public and private gatherings and outdoor gatherings (“*Mass Gatherings*”) within an enclosed space of 50 persons or more anywhere in the incorporated and unincorporated territory of Frio County is hereafter prohibited beginning 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, March 19, 2020 and continuing for 30 days thereafter, unless extended consistent with requirements of state law;
 - (b) That constituents and residents of Frio County are encouraged to conduct essential business online or via regular mail to avoid visiting any Frio County facilities unless absolutely necessary;
 - (c) That no temporary health permit for activities that are known to attract more than the established maximum of 50 persons as defined in “Mass Gathering” in 2(a) be approved for at least the next 30 days and would encourage meetings of 10 or less;
 - (d) Direct local restaurants and bars to follow all Center for Disease Control guidelines to include:
 - i. Disinfect and sanitize commonly touched surface and non-food contact surfaces at least once every hour;
 - ii. Not allow parties of more than six (6) people at one table;
 - iii. Encourage curbside food-to-go programs or deliveries;
 - iv. Adopt and implement a screening policy for food handlers and all employees, and establish protocols for employee’s exclusion if they develop the following symptoms
 - a. Fever greater than 100.3 degree Fahrenheit
 - b. Cough and shortness of breath
 - v. Encourage visible COVID-19 prevent print materials within the restaurant; and
2. Definitions and further guidance:
 - (a) For purposes of this Executive Order, a “Mass Gathering” is any event or convening, subject to the exceptions and clarifications below, that brings together or is likely to bring together fifty (50) or more persons at the same time in a single room or other single confined or enclosed space, such as, by way of example and without limitation, an auditorium, theater, stadium

(indoor or outdoor), arena or event center, meeting hall, conference center, large cafeteria or any other confined indoor or confined outdoor space.

- (b) A "Mass Gathering" includes events in confined outdoor spaces which means an outdoor space that (i) is enclosed by a fence, physical barrier, or other structure and (ii) where people are present and they are within arm's length of one another for extended periods.
- (c) This Executive Order does not prohibit gatherings of people in multiple, separate enclosed spaces in a single building such as multiplex movie theater, so long as 50 people are not present in any single space at the same time.
- (d) For purposes of clarity, a "Mass Gathering" does not include the following:
 - (i) public or private schools and places of worship;
 - (ii) museums (so long as visitor are generally not within arm's length of one another for extended periods);
 - (iii) spaces where 50 or more persons may be in transit or waiting for transit such as bus stops;
 - (iv) office space, hotels, or residential buildings;
 - (v) grocery stores, shopping malls, outdoor markets, or other retail establishments where large numbers of people are present but it is unusual for them to be within arm's length of one another for extended periods;
 - (vi) hospitals, medical facilities and shelters;
 - (vii) funeral homes; and
 - (viii) jails and detention centers.

In all such settings, it is recommended that the public follow social distancing recommendations, and harm reduction measures, such as the use of hand washing and hand sanitizer whenever possible. People that are members of high-risk populations should be especially careful venturing outside of their homes. "High-risk populations include people who are:

- 60 years old or older;
- People with certain health conditions such as heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, kidney disease, and weakened or compromised immune systems;
- and
- People experiencing homelessness.

- 3. The sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Executive Order are severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Executive Order should be declared invalid by the final judgment or decree of any court or competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections that can be given effect without the invalid provision, and to this end, the provisions of this Executive Order are severable.