

**COUNTY OF DUVAL, TEXAS
DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER
DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated as SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease known as COVID-19, was detected in mainland China, and has since spread throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a worldwide pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the symptoms of COVID-19 can range from mild to severe illness and cause further complications including death; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 virus mainly spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued a proclamation certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster in the state and declaring a state of disaster for all counties in Texas; and

WHEREAS, Duval County, Texas, is taking extraordinary measures to prevent the spread of this potentially devastating disease in our community; and

WHEREAS, said state of disaster requires that certain emergency protective measures be taken pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 relating to Emergency Management and Public Health, pursuant to Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE AND APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF DUVAL COUNTY, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That a local state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for DUVAL COUNTY, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.

SECTION 2. That pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code the state of disaster for public health emergency shall continue from the date of this declaration until the public health emergency ceases to exist as determined by proper authorities.

SECTION 3. That pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code this declaration of a local state of disaster for public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.

SECTION 4. That pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Duval County, Texas, emergency management plan, and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the declaration.

SECTION 5. That this declaration authorizes the County to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress the virus, including the quarantine of persons and occupied structures, examining and regulating hospitals or clinics, regulating ingress and egress from the County, regulating ingress and egress to occupied structures, establishment of quarantine stations, emergency hospitals, and other hospitals, and insuring compliance for those who do not comply with the County's rules and directives.

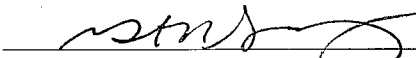
SECTION 6. That this declaration hereby limits the size of gatherings to not more than 10 people and mandates the cancellation of all such gatherings of more than 10 people until further notice. A "gathering" refers generally to a scheduled event or common endeavor where 10 persons are present in a confined space, room, or area. (see attached)

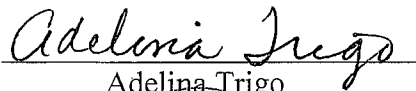
SECTION 7. In accordance with Texas Government Code §418.173, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this declaration commits an offense, punishable by a fine up to \$1,000.00 or confinement in jail for a term that does not exceed 180 days.

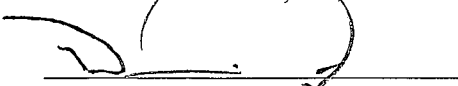
SECTION 8. That this declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.


SECTION 9. That this declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance and, with approval by the Commissioners Court, shall continue in effect until terminated by the County Judge. Pursuant to this declaration, additional directives may be issued by the County Judge at any time as deemed necessary.

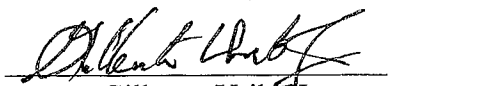
This Proclamation by Gilbert N. Saenz, County Judge for the County of Duval, State of Texas is ratified and approved by a majority vote of the Commissioners' Court for Duval County, Texas and attested to by the Duval County Clerk this 19TH day of March, 2020.

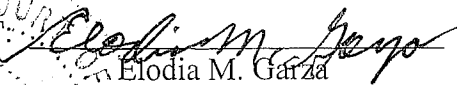

Gilbert N. Saenz
County Judge

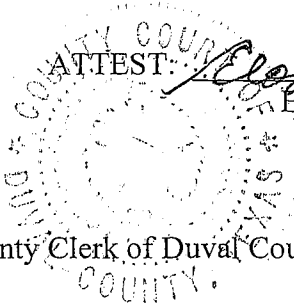

Adelina Trigo
Commissioner, Pct. 1


David Garza
Commissioner, Pct. 3

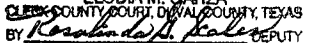

Rene N. Perez
Commissioner, Pct. 2


Gilberto Uribe Jr.
Commissioner, Pct. 4

ATTEST: 
Elodia M. Garza
County Clerk



FILED FOR RECORD
AT O'CLOCK M
MAR 19 2020

ELODIA M. GARZA
CLERK COUNTY COURT, DUVAL COUNTY, TEXAS
BY  DEPUTY

Filed with the County Clerk of Duval County, Texas on March 19, 2020.

Social Gatherings

Social gatherings shall be limited to 10 people. This does not include employees working in a business or essential services, such as health clinics, schools, childcare facilities, funerals, pharmacies, grocery stores, or gas stations. It does include the common area of the hotels and any food service areas, as well as restaurants and bars. It also includes events, conferences, etc. This list is not to be considered exhaustive; therefore we ask everyone to please use common sense.

It is the recommendation of Duval County Commissioners' Court, for the safety of everyone in the community and surrounding areas, to avoid social interactions or travel that are not essential or necessary to basic health concerns. Please consider postponing any voluntary events or trips which may potentially expose anyone to illness.