

## WALLER COUNTY Carbett "Trey" J. Duhon III County Judge

## ORDER OF WALLER COUNTY JUDGE CARBETT "TREY" J. DUHON III

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, Waller County Judge Trey Duhon signed a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency for the County of Waller, Texas related to COVID-19 pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, the Declaration of Emergency was extended by unanimous vote of the Waller County Commissioners Court on March 25, 2020, which extended the State of Local Disaster to COVID-19 until April 8, 2020, with further extensions being possible; and

WHEREAS, beginning in December, 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated 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, extraordinary measures must be taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout Waller County; and

WHEREAS, Governor Greg Abbott issued an Executive Order on Thursday, March 19, 2020 issuing orders for Texans to adhere to certain control measures and mitigation strategies; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Commissioner of State Health Services declared a Public Health Disaster for the entire State of Texas on Thursday, March 19, 2020 and outlines certain control measures and mitigation strategies;

## BE IT THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF WALLER COUNTY:

- 1. Effective as of 11:59 p.m. on March 25, 2020, and continuing until 11:59 p.m. on April 3, 2020:
  - To the extent individuals are using shared or outdoor spaces, they must at all times as reasonably as possible maintain social distancing of at least six feet from any other person when they are outside their residence.
  - To the greatest extent possible, all businesses in Waller County shall comply with the Social Distancing Guidelines attached, including maintaining six foot social distancing for both employees and the general public. Businesses are also strongly urged to maximize telecommuting and suspend or discourage nonessential employee travel. Businesses shall monitor the health and well-being of their employees on a daily basis and take appropriate measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace.
  - In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, every person in Waller County shall avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people.
  - All public or private gatherings of more than 10 people occurring outside a single household or residence are prohibited, except as otherwise provided herein. Nothing in this Order prohibits the gathering of members of a household or residence. This prohibition includes all non-social gatherings with the exception that a gathering can be held with more than 10 people in a space where there is a minimum of 6 feet between each individual in that gathering for the duration of the gathering. For example, a 6 ft radius around an individual is 113.1 square feet. In order to conduct a business meeting or a church worship service of 20 people, the space in which the meeting is conducted must contain at least 2,262 square feet, which could equate to a room that is roughly 48' x 48'.
  - Religious institutions are strongly urged to provide religious and worship services by video and/or teleconference. Religious institutions may also be permitted to conduct

worship services outdoors as long as at least six feet distance is maintained between individuals and/or family units.

- Restaurants with or without drive-in or drive-through services and bars, microbreweries, micro-distilleries, or wineries may only provide take out, delivery, or drive-through services as allowed by law.
- In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall avoid visiting gyms and massage parlors.
- Nursing homes, retirement, and long-term care facilities are instructed by this Order to
  prohibit non-essential visitors from accessing their facilities unless to provide critical
  assistance or for an end-of-life event, as allowed by the facility.
- If someone in a household has tested positive for coronavirus, the household is ordered to isolate at home for 14 days until or unless otherwise directed by the Local Health Authority. Members of the household cannot go to work, school, or any other community functions during the isolation period.
- In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, schools shall temporarily close.
- People shall avoid public playground equipment.
- Governmental entities in Waller County are encouraged to maintain essential services
  and infrastructure necessary for the public good and safety while complying with the
  spirit of this Order as much as practicable in their continued daily operations.
- Waller County residents are strongly encouraged to remain in their residences as much
  as possible and limit trips outside their residences to work and trips for essential items
  only. Any residents that are AT RISK should to the greatest extent feasible, remain at
  home at all times.
- 2. Pursuant to Government Code §418.173, violation of this Order is an offense punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days.

ORDERED this 26th day of March, 2020.

Carbett Trey" J Duhon I

Waller County Judge