

STATE OF TEXAS

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COUNTY OF HARDIN

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## **VOLUNTARY EVACUATION NOTICE**

WHEREAS, the County of Hardin, Texas, on the <u>25</u><sup>TH</sup> day of August, 2020, was in danger of being in the path of the weather event currently designated as Hurricane Laura, as described in reports issued by the United States National Weather Service and the Texas Division of Emergency Management State Operations Center, potentially causing severe or widespread damage, injury, or loss of life and property resulting from countywide conditions created by torrential rainfall accompanied by high speed winds and tornadic activity over an excessive period of time, affecting Hardin County by causing flooding and severe wind damage in residential and commercial areas, and major infrastructure damage preventing access to, or the safe passage on, many roadways, as well as the potential for long term countywide electrical power and utility outages. Such conditions will create an imminent public safety hazard.

WHEREAS, the County Judge of Hardin County, Texas determined, based upon predictions issued by the National Weather Service and the TDEM State Operations Center, that extraordinary measures must be taken to protect life, as well as to protect or rehabilitate property, were necessary and ordered. As such, a Declaration of Disaster was issued by the County Judge on August 24, 2020.

**WHEREAS,** on August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the County Judge of Hardin County, Texas, has received the latest information regarding the updated forecasted trajectory of Hurricane Laura from the United States National Weather Service which could result in the disruption of emergency services being available as well as the loss of public utilities throughout Hardin County, Texas for an extended period of time.

THEREFORE, THE VOLUNTARY EVACUATION OF ALL CITIZENS OF HARDIN COUNTY IS HEREBY RECOMMENDED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF HARDIN COUNTY, TEXAS, EFFECTIVE 12:00 P.M. THIS DATE.

SIGNED this 25<sup>TH</sup> day of August, 2020.

Wayne McDarriel, County Judge

Hardin County, Texas