EXECUTIVE ORDER OF CONTINUATION OF DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.001 *et seq.*, also known as 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, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.108, Wilson County Judge Richard J. Jackson declared a state of local disaster on March 19, 2020 due to the imminent threat arising from COVID-19;

WHEREAS, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.108(b), of even date herewith, the Wilson County Commissioners Court by unanimous vote in open court approved this Executive Order of Continuation of Declaration of Public Health Emergency for Wilson County (hereafter, the "Order of Continuation of Declaration");

WHEREAS, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.108(b), the consent by the Commissioners Court of Wilson County authorizes the Wilson County Judge to continue to exercise the powers granted by the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 for the period specified in this Order of Continuing Declaration;

WHEREAS, a continuation of 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; and

WHEREAS, the Order of Continuation of Declaration further reserved all other authority and powers conferred by or under the laws of the State of Texas and authorized the Wilson County

Judge to respond as necessary to the situation made the subject of this Order of Continuation of Declaration by issuance of additional executive orders as necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF THE COUNTY OF WILSON THAT EFFECTIVE AS OF 9:00 A.M. ON MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2020, AND CONTINUING FOR THIRTY DAYS UNTIL 9:00 A.M. TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2020:

1. That a local state of disaster and public health emergency is hereby declared throughout Wilson 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 thirty days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the Wilson 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 Wilson 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 Wilson County to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress disease throughout Wilson County, including quarantine, examining and regulating hospitals, regulating ingress and egress throughout Wilson County and any impacted areas.

6. Pursuant to the statutory authority vested in me as the presiding officer of the County of Wilson, I issue the following guidance as set out within the Declaration Regarding Public and Private Gatherings and Related Matters, attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "1", The Order from the Texas Supreme Court designated as Attachment "1-A" and Executive Order No. GA-08 relating to COVID- 19 preparedness and mitigation that is designated as Attachment "2-A".

7. As the County Judge and presiding officer of the County of Wilson, 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 23rd of March, 2020.

Richard L. Jackson, Wilson County Judge

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND SUBSTANCE IN OPEN COMMISSIONERS COURT:

Albert Gamez, Wilson County Commissioner, Pct. 1

Paul Pfiel, Wilson County Commissioner, Pct. 2

Ernest "Skip" Hajek, Wilson County Commissioner, Pct. 3

Larry Wiley, Wilson County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: Eva S. Martinez
Wilson County Clerk

Exhibit "1"

Declaration Regarding Public and Private Gatherings and Other Matters

I. Declaration Regarding Public and Private Gatherings:

a. This Exhibit "1" incorporates and adopts, except as where noted below, the Centers for Disease Control ("CDC") Interim Guidance for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) dated March 15, 2019 and any additional amendments or updates to said Interim Guidance that the CDC issues during the pendency of this public health emergency.

b. The virus that causes COVID-19 is easily transmitted, especially in group settings, and it is essential that the spread of the virus be slowed to protect the ability of public and private health care providers to handle an influx of patients and safeguard public health and safety.

c. Because of the risk of the rapid spread of the virus, and the need to protect the most vulnerable members of the community, this declaration prohibits in accordance with CDC guidance, all indoor public and private gatherings and outdoor gatherings within an enclosed space of TEN (10) persons or more anywhere in Wilson County beginning at 0800 A.M. on March 20, 2020 and continuing for seven (7) days, unless extended consistent with requirements of state law.

d. For all other gatherings, it is strongly recommended that social distancing protocols established by the United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and found within the "Implementation of Mitigation strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission" issued by the CDC on or around March 11, 2020, including canceling, rescheduling, or not attending events with more than ten persons.

e. Further, organizations that serve high-risk populations (defined below) should follow CDC guidance for social distancing.

f. In addition to the guidance contained herein, local businesses, restaurants and bars are required to follow all Proclamations or Executive Orders issued by the Office of the Governor of the State of Texas, or Center for Disease Control guidelines to include:

    i. Restrictions related to indoor dining or assembling;

    ii. To disinfect and sanitize commonly touched surface and non-food

contact surfaces at least once every hour;

iii. To encourage curbside food-to-go programs or deliveries;

iv. To adopt and implement a screening policy for food handlers and all employees, and establish protocols for the immediate exclusion of employees if they develop the following symptoms:

a. Fever greater than 100.3 degree F, and/or
b. Cough and shortness of breath; and

v. Make available for all employees and patrons visible COVID-19 prevention print materials within the restaurant or establishment.

II. Definitions and further guidance:

a. For purposes of this Declaration, a "Mass Gathering" is any event or convening, subject to the exceptions and clarifications below, that brings together TEN (10) or more persons at the same time in a single room or other single confirmed 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 (1) is enclosed by a fence, physical barrier, or other structure and (2) where people are present and they are within arm's length of one another for extended periods.

c. This Declaration also does not prohibit gatherings of people in multiple, separated enclosed spaces in a single building such as a multiplex movie theater, so long as ten people are not present in any single space at the same time. This Declaration also does not prohibit use of enclosed spaces where ten or more people may be present at different times during the day, so long as ten or more people are not present in the space at the same time. For any gathering covered by this subsection compliance with Social Distancing Recommendations, including providing hand sanitizer and tissues and increasing cleaning of commonly touched surfaces is strongly encouraged.

d. For purposed of clarity, a Mass Gathering does not include the following:

1. Office space, hotels, or residential buildings;
2. Grocery stores, gas stations, 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;
3. Hospitals, medical facilities and shelters; and
4. Jails and detention centers.

***In all such settings, it is recommended that the public follow social distancing recommendations, and harm reduction measures. Hand sanitizer and tissues should be provided when possible. However, any specific large gathering space that is part of any building included in this subparagraph "d" is subject to the prohibition on Mass Gatherings if the space holds ten or more people.**

e. "High-risk Populations" include people who are:

1. 60 years old and older;
2. People with certain health conditions such as heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, kidney disease, and weakened immune systems;
3. People who are pregnant or were pregnant in the last two weeks.
4. People experiencing homelessness.

f. The Local Health Authority and Director of Health may update restrictions set out in this Exhibit as necessary to respond to the evolving circumstances of this outbreak during the duration of the next 7 days and any extension by the Wilson County Commissioners Court.

III. Wilson County officials and medical staff shall work together to implement enhanced screening and monitoring processes and procedures for detection of COVID-19 in our inmate population at the Wilson County Detention Center in order to mitigate risk to county staff and the public to include appropriate screening prior to entry, during detention, and prior to release;

IV. All Wilson County Courts including County Court (with the exception of the County Commissioners Court functioning in its administrative capacity), District Court, Justice of the Peace courts, City of Floresville Municipal Courts, and the City of La Vernia Municipal Courts, and the City of Poth Municipal Courts, and the City of

Stockdale Municipal Courts, are directed to the protocol established by the FIRST EMERGENCY ORDER REGARDING THE COVID-19 STATE OF DISASTER issued March 13, 2020, jointly by the Texas Supreme Court and the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. (See Attachment 1-A).

V. Executive Order No. GA-08 relating to COVID- 19 preparedness and mitigation is hereby incorporated into this Public Health Emergency Declaration and is attached. (See Attachment 2-A.)

VI. Any peace officer or other person with lawful authority is hereby authorized to enforce the provisions of this Order in accordance with the authority granted under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975. Any person who violates this Order may be subject to a fine not exceeding $1,000 or confinement for a period not exceeding 180 days.

VII. This Declaration (without implying any such behavior is occurring) further stresses to all vendors and retailers in the County that Section 17.46(b)(27) of the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices-Consumer Protection Act provides that it is a false, misleading or deceptive act or practice to take advantage of a disaster declared by the Governor under Chapter 418, Government Code, or the President by:

1. Selling or leasing fuel, food, medicine, lodging, building materials, construction tools, or another necessity at an exorbitant or excessive price; or
2. Demanding an exorbitant or excessive price in connection with the sale or lease of fuel, food, medicine, lodging, building materials, construction tools, or another necessity.

***Reports of any such activities will be investigated by the Wilson County Attorney and cases found to be supported by evidence will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law or referred to the Texas Attorney General for further action.**

VIII. 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.

ATTACHMENT "1-A"

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

Misc. Docket No. 20-9042

IN THE COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS OF TEXAS

Misc. Docket No. 20-007

FIRST EMERGENCY ORDER REGARDING THE COVID-19 STATE OF DISASTER

ORDERED that:

1. Governor Abbott has declared a state of disaster in all 254 counties in the State of Texas in response to the imminent threat of the COVID-19 pandemic. This order is issued pursuant to Section 22.0035(b) of the Texas Government Code.

2. Subject only to constitutional limitations, all courts in Texas may in any case, civil or criminal—and must to avoid risk to court staff, parties, attorneys, jurors, and the public—without a participant's consent:

a. Modify or suspend any and all deadlines and procedures, whether prescribed by statute, rule, or order, for a stated period ending no later than 30 days after the Governor's state of disaster has been lifted;

b. Allow or require anyone involved in any hearing, deposition, or other proceeding of any kind—including but not limited to a party, attorney, witness, or court reporter, but not including a juror—to participate remotely, such as by teleconferencing, videoconferencing, or other means;

c. Consider as evidence sworn statements made out of court or sworn testimony given remotely, out of court, such as by teleconferencing, videoconferencing, or other means;

d. Conduct proceedings away from the court's usual location, but in the county of venue, and only with reasonable notice and access to the participants and the public;

e. Require every participant in a proceeding to alert the court if the participant has, or knows of another participant who has, COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms, or a fever, cough or sneezing;

f. Take any other reasonable action to avoid exposing court proceedings to the threat of COVID-19.

3. All courts in Texas may extend the statute of limitations in any civil case for a stated period ending no later than 30 days after the Governor's state of disaster has been lifted.

4. This Order is effective as of March 13, 2020, and expires May 8, 2020, unless extended by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

5. The Clerk of the Supreme Court is directed to:

a. post a copy of this Order on www.txcourts.gov;

b. file a copy of this Order with the Secretary of State; and

c. send a copy of this Order to the Governor, the Attorney General, and each member of the Legislature.

6. The State Bar of Texas is directed to take all reasonable steps to notify members of the Texas bar of this Order.

Dated: March 13, 2020

Nathan L. Hecht, Chief Justice

Paul W. Green, Justice

Eva M. Guzman, Justice

Debra H. Lehrmann, Justice

Jeffrey S. Boyd, Justice

John P. Devine, Justice

James D. Blacklock, Justice

J. Brett Busby, Justice

Jane N. Bland, Justice

Sharon Keller, Presiding Judge

Michael Keasler, Judge

Barbara P. Hervey, Judge

Bert Richardson, Judge

Kevin P. Yeary, Judge

David Newell, Judge

Mary Lou Keel, Judge

Scott Walker, Judge

Michelle M. Slaughter, Judge

ATTACHMENT "2-A"

GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

March 19, 2020

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
11:59 AM O'CLOCK
MAR 19 2020
Secretary of State

The Honorable Ruth R. Hughs
Secretary of State
State Capitol Room 1E.8
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Secretary Hughs:

Pursuant to his powers as Governor of the State of Texas, Greg Abbott has issued the following:

Executive Order No. GA-08 relating to COVID-19 preparedness and mitigation.

The original executive order is attached to this letter of transmittal.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory S. Davidson
Executive Clerk to the Governor

GSD/gsd

Attachment

Executive Order

BY THE
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

Executive Department
Austin, Texas
March 19, 2020

EXECUTIVE ORDER
GA 08

Relating to COVID-19 preparedness and mitigation.

WHEREAS, the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has been recognized globally as a contagious respiratory virus; and

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

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to spread and to pose an increasing, imminent threat of disaster throughout Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has advised that person-to-person contact heightens the risk of COVID-19 transmission; and

WHEREAS, the President's Coronavirus Guidelines for America, as promulgated by President Donald J. Trump and the CDC on March 16, 2020, call upon Americans to slow the spread of COVID-19 by avoiding social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people, using drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options at restaurants and bars, and avoiding visitation at nursing homes, among other steps; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Department of State Health Services has now determined that, as of March 19, 2020, COVID-19 represents a public health disaster within the meaning of Chapter 81 of the Texas Health and Safety Code; and

WHEREAS, under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, "[t]he governor is responsible for meeting . . . the dangers to the state and people presented by disasters" (Section 418.001 of the Texas Government Code), and the legislature has given the governor broad authority to fulfill that responsibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, do hereby order the following on a statewide basis effective 11:59 p.m. on March 20, 2020, and continuing until 11:59 p.m. on April 3, 2020, subject to extension thereafter based on the status of COVID-19 in Texas and the recommendations of the CDC:

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
11:59 AM O'CLOCK

MAR 19 2020

Order No. 1 In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, every person in Texas shall avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people.

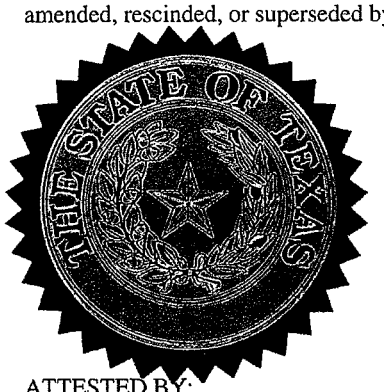
Order No. 2 In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts, or visiting gyms or massage parlors; provided, however, that the use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options is allowed and highly encouraged throughout the limited duration of this executive order.

Order No. 3 In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall not visit nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.

Order No. 4 In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, schools shall temporarily close.

This executive order does not prohibit people from visiting a variety of places, including grocery stores, gas stations, parks, and banks, so long as the necessary precautions are maintained to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. This executive order does not mandate sheltering in place. All critical infrastructure will remain operational, domestic travel will remain unrestricted, and government entities and businesses will continue providing essential services. For offices and workplaces that remain open, employees should practice good hygiene and, where feasible, work from home in order to achieve optimum isolation from COVID-19. The more that people reduce their public contact, the sooner COVID-19 will be contained and the sooner this executive order will expire.

This executive order supersedes all previous orders on this matter that are in conflict or inconsistent with its terms, and this order shall remain in effect and in full force until 11:59 p.m. on April 3, 2020, subject to being extended, modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded by me or by a succeeding governor.



Given under my hand this the
19th day of March, 2020.

GREG ABBOTT
Governor

ATTESTED BY:

RUTH R. HUGHS
Secretary of State

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
11:59AM O'CLOCK

MAR 19 2020