

**ALFONSO CAMPOS**  
**Erath County Judge**

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**Laurie Gillispie**  
Administrative Assistant  
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Facilities Manager  
**Susan Driskill**  
Emergency Services Coord.

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**Date: March 19, 2020**

**From: The Office of Erath County Judge**  
**The Office of Erath County Emergency Management**

On Friday, March 13, Governor Abbott issued a Disaster Declaration related to COVID-19. Locally, Dublin and Stephenville have issued Declarations as well. Because of the “novel” nature of COVID-19, there are no known sectors of the population that have any built-in immunity to this virus. Therefore, and consistent with medical advice provided by top state and national health officials, the most important things we as a county unit of government can do are to help reduce of spread of the disease and to help protect our most vulnerable citizens and colleagues.

To do this, we need your help. Clearly the health and safety of our residents is our absolute highest priority. We must all be resolute in this regard and follow the widely publicized best practices for preventing spread, staying healthy, and just as importantly, for keeping family, friends and loved ones healthy.

To this end, I have issued a Declaration of Disaster for the unincorporated areas of Erath County effective today March 19. The order is issued under authority granted to the County Judge under the Texas Local Government Code.

This decision comes after Erath County Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) Susan Driskill and I have participated in conference calls with Governor Abbott, State Health Officials, the Association of Counties; and after consultation with bordering county EMC’s and County Judges, as well as locally, with Dublin and Stephenville City Officials, Hospital officials, Elected Officials and our Local Health Authority (LHA).

The Declaration allows the County to readily request state response assets and materials that may be available.

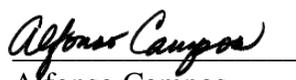
The order is effective for seven (7) days from the date of declaration, and may continue upon approval by the Erath County Commissioner’s Court.

Going forward, and as we work through the various issues associated with COVID-19, our decision-making will continue to be informed by guidance from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), as well as local health entities.

211Texas activated a COVID-19 option within the 211 platform. 211 specialists across the state are available 24/7 to answer most frequently asked, non-medical, questions based on material provided by DSHS and CDC. All of this information is available at www.211texas.org.

I ask that we support one another to get over this temporary hump. We have overcome great challenges in the past, and I hope we can soon be looking back on this one with pride in how we looked out for our county residents.

Regards,

  
Alfonso Campos  
Erath County Judge



POSTED  
8:35 A.M. \_\_\_\_\_ P.M.

MAR 19 2020

GWINDA JONES, COUNTY CLERK  
ERATH COUNTY, TEXAS

By G Deputy

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

**WHEREAS**, a novel coronavirus, now designated SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease COVID-19, has been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; 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**, Erath 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 OF ERATH COUNTY, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1.** That a local state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for Erath 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 for a period of not more than seven (7) days from the date of this declaration, unless continued or renewed by the Commissioners Court of Erath County, Texas.

**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 Erath 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, 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. This does not include schools.

This declaration does not prohibit gatherings of people in multiple, separate, enclosed spaces (including separate cubicles) in a single building such as different floors of multi-level office, residential building, or hotel, so long as more than 10 people are not present in any single space at the same time.

This Declaration hereby orders that a restaurant with or without drive-in or drive-through services; drive-in restaurant; drive-through restaurant; or other food service businesses providing food or drink for consumption on the premises (including those ancillary to other uses) may only provide take out, curbside take out, delivery, drive-in or drive-through services. Food service businesses in medical facilities that would otherwise be open to the public may still operate to serve the medical facility, but shall not be open to the public, except as provided above.

This Declaration hereby limits occupancy of a bar, lounge, or tavern; commercial amusement; theatre; gym; and private club to no more than 10 people.

**SECTION 7.** The owner, manager, or operator of any facility that is likely to be impacted by these regulations shall post a copy of these regulations onsite and visible to users of the facility and provide a copy to any user of the facility asking for a copy

**SECTION 8.** If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of these regulations or any application of them to any person, structure, gathering, or circumstance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of these regulations.

**SECTION 9.** In accordance with Texas Government Code §418.173, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this declaration commits an offense, punishable by a fine of not less than \$50.00 and not more than \$2,000.00 or confinement in jail for a term that does not exceed 180 days.

**SECTION 10.** Any ordinance, order, or regulation that would prevent temporary sheltering and housing by the County of Erath, State of Texas, or the Federal Government in response to the declared disaster are suspended or modified as necessary to make these regulations effective.

Any ordinance or regulation imposing a time requirement for approving or denying an application or for appealing a County Court or Administrative decision is tolled.

Any ordinances or regulations that conflict with these regulations are suspended or modified as necessary to make these regulations effective.

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8:35 A.M. \_\_\_\_\_ P.M.

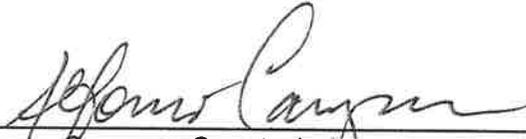
MAR 19 2020

Suspension or modification of the ordinances and regulations shall remain in effect until these regulations are terminated or until the state of disaster is terminated, whichever is sooner.

**SECTION 11.** That this declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

**SECTION 12.** This Declaration shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect for seven (7) days.

**DECLARED this 19th day of March, 2020.**

  
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Alfonso Campos, County Judge  
Erath County, Texas

Filed:

  
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Gwinda Jones, County Clerk  
Erath County, Texas

POSTED  
8:55 A.M. \_\_\_\_\_ P.M.  
MAR 19 2020  
GWINDA JONES, COUNTY CLERK  
ERATH COUNTY, TEXAS  
By G Deputy