

STATE OF TEXAS

§

COMMISSIONERS COURT

SAN PATRICIO COUNTY

§

**ORDER CONTINUING
DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER
FOR SAN PATRICIO COUNTY, TEXAS**

WHEREAS, the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is recognized globally as a contagious respiratory virus and on March 11, 2020, was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Greg Abbott, Governor of the State of Texas, on March 13, 2020 certified that COVID-19 posed an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in Texas in accordance with the authority vested to the Governor in Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, for the first time since 1901, Dr. John Hellerstedt, the Commissioner Texas Department of State Health Services declared a public health disaster in Texas on March 19, 2020 because COVID-19 “has created an immediate threat, poses a high risk of death to a large number of people and creates a substantial risk of public exposure because of the disease’s method of transmission and evidence that there is community spread in Texas;” and

WHEREAS, the San Patricio County Judge, due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), declared a local state of disaster on March 16, 2020, amended his Declaration on March 19, 2020, and has continued the Declaration accordingly thereafter; and

WHEREAS, a declaration of local state of disaster activates the San Patricio County Multi-Jurisdictional Emergency Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, this Order implementing emergency powers is issued pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 418 to include authorizing the County Judge to control, among other things, the ingress, egress, movement, and occupancy of premises on an appropriate local scale in accordance with Section 418.108(h); and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020, San Patricio County Department of Public Health confirmed the County’s first case of travel related COVID-19 and has confirmed subsequent cases thereafter; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.108(b), the declaration of local state of disaster may not be continued or renewed for a period of more than seven (7) days except with the consent of the Commissioners’ Court of San Patricio County; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners' Court of San Patricio County, Texas, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.108(b), consented to the declaration of local state of disaster for San Patricio County, Texas; thus authorizing San Patricio County Judge to continue to exercise the powers granted by the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 and to take such actions as are necessary in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the County; and

WHEREAS, under Section 418.173, failure to comply with any executive order issued during the COVID-19 disaster is an offense punishable by fine not to exceed \$1,000, confinement in jail for term not to exceed 180 days, or both fine and confinement; and

WHEREAS, the County Judge of San Patricio County has determined that extraordinary measures must continue in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED BY THE JUDGE OF THE COUNTY OF SAN PATRICIO, TEXAS, THAT:

- 1.) The declaration of local state of disaster for the County of San Patricio, Texas resulting from COVID-19 is hereby continued;
- 2.) This Declaration continues to activate the County's Multi-Jurisdictional Emergency Management Plan;
- 3.) This Declaration continues to activate the recovery and rehabilitation aspects of all applicable local or interjurisdictional emergency management plans and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the Declaration, and the preparedness and response aspects of the plans are activated as provided in the plans;
- 4.) This Declaration continuing a local state of disaster shall be effective for thirty (30) days on and from its date of issuance, provided however that this declaration may be terminated before the expiration of thirty (30) days by subsequent order of the County Judge, and may be continued or renewed beyond thirty days from its date of issuance only with the timely consent of the Commissioners' Court of San Patricio County, Texas;
- 5.) The sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Declaration are severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Declaration 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 of this Declaration that can be given effect without the invalid provision, and to this end the provisions of this Order are severable.

6.) This Declaration shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk of San Patricio County; and

7.) This Declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

It is hereby **DECLARED AND ORDERED**, this 7th day of January, 2021.



ATTEST:

Gracie Alaniz Gonzales
Gracie Alaniz Gonzales
San Patricio County Clerk

David R. Krebs

David R. Krebs,
County Judge
San Patricio County, Texas