



**Wood County Judge Lucy Hebron
Quitman, Texas
April 28, 2020 Press Release
(12:00 p.m.)**

COVID-19 Update

On April 27, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott issued Executive Order No. GA-18. This Executive Order relates to the expanded reopening of services in the State of Texas, and it includes, but is not limited to, the re-opening of certain businesses, guidelines for operating those businesses and services, additional guidelines for churches, and additional relevant information about social distancing and health and safety of our communities.

Executive Order No. GA-18 can be reviewed at https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/press/EO-GA-18_expanded_reopening_of_services_COVID-19.pdf. In addition, The Governor's Open Texas Report (which contains additional guidelines and protocols) can be reviewed at <https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/organization/opentexas/OpenTexas-Report.pdf>.

On April 28, 2020, Wood County Judge Lucy Hebron issued the "Second Amended Order of Declaration of Local Disaster due to Public Health Emergency for Wood County, Texas" ("Second Amended Order"). The Second Amended Order states that the "Amended Order of Declaration of Local Disaster Due to Public Health Emergency for Wood County, Texas", which was dated April 1, 2020, expires as of 12:01 a.m. on Friday, May 1, 2020. At that time, Governor Abbott's Executive Orders, including Executive Order No. GA-18, are hereby adopted by Wood County. This will include future Executive Orders issued by the governor that relate to the COVID-19 disaster, unless the Second Amended Order is modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded by Judge Hebron. The Second Amended Order will remain in effect based upon the effective dates stated by Governor Abbott in his Executive Orders, unless ordered otherwise by Judge Hebron. The Second Amended Order is attached to this Press Release for your reference.

Please read the full documents, which will answer many of your questions. If, after reviewing the referenced documents, you still have questions, please feel free to email your questions to COVIDinfo@mywoodcounty.com.



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2020 APR 28 PM 12:21
COUNTY CLERK, WOOD CO. TX

**SECOND AMENDED ORDER OF DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER
DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY FOR WOOD COUNTY, TEXAS
DATE AMENDED ORDER ISSUED: APRIL 28, 2020**

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.108, Wood County Judge Lucy Hebron issued a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency on March 20, 2020, due to a novel coronavirus now designated SARS-CoV2 which causes the disease COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2020, Judge Hebron issued an Order in furtherance of her authority to protect the safety and welfare of the public by slowing the spread of the virus; and,

WHEREAS, the on-going evaluation of circumstances related to the virus and the updated recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and the Texas Department of State Health Services warrant the March 20, 2020 Order of County Judge Lucy Hebron be amended; and,

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, President Trump acknowledged the gravity of the COVID-19 pandemic, releasing strict guidelines to limit people's interactions, including that Americans should avoid groups of more than 10 people; and,

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020, the Wood County Commissioners Court issued an Order Ratifying the Disaster Declaration for Public Health Emergency that affirmed the activation of the Wood County Emergency Management Plan and extends the Declaration of Local Disaster until the Governor of the State of Texas terminates the Texas Disaster Declaration issued on March 13, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2020, Governor Abbott issued an Executive Order, No. GA-14, which relates to statewide continuity of essential services and activities during the COVID-19 disaster;

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2020, Governor Abbott issued Executive Order Nos. GA-15, GA-16, and GA-17, which relates to hospital capacity, reopening of select services, and the creation of the Governor's Strike Force to open Texas;

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2020, Governor Abbott issued Executive Order No. GA-18, which relates to the expanded reopening of services as part of the safe, strategic plan to open Texas. Executive Order No. GA-18 supersedes Executive Order GA-16 but does not supersede Executive Order Nos. GA-10, GA-11, GA-12, GA-13, GA-15, or GA-17. Executive Order GA-18 remains in effect and in full force until 11:59 p.m. on May 15, 2020, unless it is modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded by the governor;

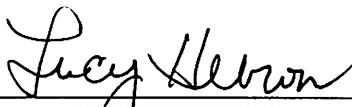
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lucy Hebron, Wood County Judge, Quitman, Texas, under the authority of Texas Government Code Section 418.108, do hereby order the following on a countywide basis effective at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, May 1, 2020:

1. That this Second Amended Order of Declaration of Local Disaster Due to Public Health Emergency for Wood County, Texas (“Second Amended Order”) shall be given prompt and general publicity and filed with the County Clerk. This Second Amended Order incorporates all provisions provided in the previous Proclamation Declaring a Local State Disaster issued on March 20, 2020, which was ratified by the Wood County Commissioners Court on March 24, 2020.
2. That, regardless of any other provision of this Second Amended Order, if a person residing in Wood County is being tested or has tested positive for COVID-19 (“COVID-19 Patient”) or is a Person Under Investigation (“PUI”), that person, plus all other individuals living at the same address¹ of a COVID-19 Patient or PUI are ordered to isolate at home until testing shows the COVID-19 Patient or PUI, has either (i) tested negative, (ii) is released back to work by a medical doctor, or (iii) is no longer an active PUI according to the Local Health Authority, whichever occurs first. Individuals identified in this paragraph shall not go to work, school, or any other community function until the COVID-19 Patient or PUI has either (i) tested negative, (ii) is released back to work by a medical doctor, or (iii) is no longer an active PUI according to the Local Health Authority, whichever occurs first. Nothing in this paragraph shall prevent any individual from seeking health care services or treatment for themselves or assisting any family member.
 - a. COVID-19 Patient includes an individual who (i) has tested positive or (ii) has been tested for COVID-19 and is still awaiting a result.
 - b. Person Under Investigation (“PUI”) is defined as an individual who the local public health authority has reason to believe is or may be infected in accordance with Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 81, Subchapters D, E, and G, and has been informed that they are a “Person Under Investigation.”
 - c. This provision of this Second Amended Order in no way impedes the local public health authority or state public health authority from issuing or seeking any Control Measure Order under Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 81, Subchapter E.
3. That, as of 12:01 a.m. on Friday, May 1, 2020, the Amended Order of Declaration of Local Disaster Due to Public Health Emergency for Wood County, Texas, which was signed on April 1, 2020, shall expire at that time.
4. That Governor Greg Abbott’s Executive Order No. GA-18 is hereby adopted in full, and all prior Executive Orders issued by Governor Abbott that were not superseded by a subsequent Executive Order are hereby adopted in full. Executive Order No. GA-18 is attached to this Second Amended Order as Exhibit “A” for reference.

¹ For apartment complexes or other multi-family units, the term “address” is intended only to mean those living in the same apartment number or housing unit.

5. That future Executive Orders relating to the COVID-19 disaster issued by the governor of Texas shall be adopted in full, unless this Second Amended Order is modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded by Wood County Judge Lucy Hebron.
6. Per Executive Order GA-18, under Section 418.173 of the Texas Government Code, failure to comply with this Second Amended Order or any Executive Order issued by the governor during the COVID-19 disaster is an offense punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days, or both fine and confinement.
7. All provisions of this Second Amended Order should be interpreted to effectuate its intent. If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Second Amended Order or any application of it 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 this Second Amended Order.
8. This Second Amended Order takes effect at 12:01 a.m., Friday, May 1, 2020. It will continue through the date stated in Governor Abbott's Executive Order No. GA-18, and as modified, amended, rescinded, and superseded by future Executive Orders issued by the governor or by further order of Judge Lucy Hebron.

Signed and dated the 28th day of April, 2020.



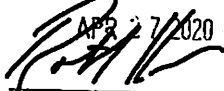
LUCY HEBRON
WOOD COUNTY JUDGE



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

April 27, 2020

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1 PM O'CLOCK

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Secretary of State

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

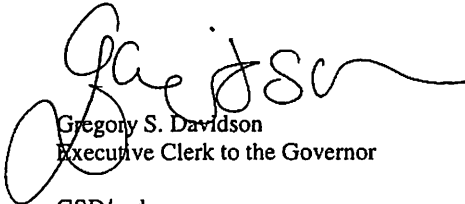
Dear Secretary Hughs:

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

Executive Order No. GA-18 relating to the expanded reopening of services as part of the safe, strategic plan to Open Texas in response to the COVID-19 disaster.

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
April 27, 2020

EXECUTIVE ORDER
GA 18

*Relating to the expanded reopening of services as part of the safe, strategic plan to
Open Texas in response to the COVID-19 disaster.*

WHEREAS, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, issued a disaster proclamation on March 13, 2020, certifying under Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, on April 12, 2020, I issued a proclamation renewing the disaster declaration for all counties in Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), Dr. John Hellerstedt, has determined that COVID-19 represents a public health disaster within the meaning of Chapter 81 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, and renewed that determination on April 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, I have issued executive orders and suspensions of Texas laws in response to COVID-19, aimed at protecting the health and safety of Texans and ensuring an effective response to this disaster; and

WHEREAS, I issued Executive Order GA-08 on March 19, 2020, mandating certain obligations for Texans in accordance with the President's Coronavirus Guidelines for America, as promulgated by President Donald J. Trump and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on March 16, 2020, which called upon Americans to take actions to slow the spread of COVID-19 for 15 days; and

WHEREAS, shortly before Executive Order GA-08 expired, I issued Executive Order GA-14 on March 31, 2020, based on the President's announcement that the restrictive social-distancing Guidelines should extend through April 30, 2020, in light of advice from Dr. Anthony Fauci and Dr. Deborah Birx, and also based on guidance by DSHS Commissioner Dr. Hellerstedt and Dr. Birx that the spread of COVID-19 can be reduced by minimizing social gatherings; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order GA-14 superseded Executive Order GA-08 and expanded the social-distancing restrictions and other obligations for Texans that are aimed at slowing the spread of COVID-19, including by limiting social gatherings and in-person contact with people (other than those in the same household) to providing or obtaining "essential services," and by expressly adopting federal guidance that provides a list of critical-infrastructure sectors, workers, and functions that should continue as "essential services" during the COVID-19 response; and

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WHEREAS, after more than two weeks of having in effect the heightened restrictions like those required by Executive Order GA-14, which have saved lives, it was clear that the disease still presented a serious threat across Texas that could persist in certain areas, but also that COVID-19 had wrought havoc on many Texas businesses and workers affected by the restrictions that were necessary to protect human life; and

WHEREAS, on April 17, 2020, I therefore issued Executive Order GA-17, creating the Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas to study and make recommendations on safely and strategically restarting and revitalizing all aspects of the Lone Star State—work, school, entertainment, and culture; and

WHEREAS, also on April 17, 2020, I issued Executive Order GA-16 to replace Executive Order GA-14, and while Executive Order GA-16 generally continued through April 30, 2020, the same social-distancing restrictions and other obligations for Texans according to federal guidelines, it offered a safe, strategic first step to Open Texas, including permitting retail pick-up and delivery services; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order GA-16 is set to expire at 11:59 p.m. on April 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Texas must continue to protect lives while restoring livelihoods, both of which can be achieved with the expert advice of medical professionals and business leaders; and

WHEREAS, the “governor is responsible for meeting ... the dangers to the state and people presented by disasters” under Section 418.011 of the Texas Government Code, and the legislature has given the governor broad authority to fulfill that responsibility; and

WHEREAS, under Section 418.012, the “governor may issue executive orders ... hav[ing] the force and effect of law;” and

WHEREAS, under Section 418.016(a), the “governor may suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business ... if strict compliance with the provisions ... would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with a disaster;” and

WHEREAS, under Section 418.017(a), the “governor may use all available resources of state government and of political subdivisions that are reasonably necessary to cope with a disaster;” and

WHEREAS, under Section 418.018(c), the “governor may control ingress and egress to and from a disaster area and the movement of persons and the occupancy of premises in the area;” and

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

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 immediately, and continuing through May 15, 2020, subject to extension based on the status of COVID-19 in Texas and the

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recommendations of the Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas, the White House Coronavirus Task Force, and the CDC:

In accordance with guidance from DSHS Commissioner Dr. Hellerstedt, and to achieve the goals established by the President to reduce the spread of COVID-19, every person in Texas shall, except where necessary to provide or obtain essential services or reopened services, minimize social gatherings and minimize in-person contact with people who are not in the same household. People over the age of 65, however, are strongly encouraged to stay at home as much as possible; to maintain appropriate distance from any member of the household who has been out of the residence in the previous 14 days; and, if leaving the home, to implement social distancing and to practice good hygiene, environmental cleanliness, and sanitation.

"Essential services" shall consist of everything listed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in its Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce, Version 3.0 or any subsequent version, plus religious services conducted in churches, congregations, and houses of worship. Other essential services may be added to this list with the approval of the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM). TDEM shall maintain an online list of essential services, as specified in this executive order and any approved additions. Requests for additions should be directed to TDEM at EssentialServices@tdem.texas.gov or by visiting the TDEM website at www.tdem.texas.gov/essentialservices.

"Reopened services" shall consist of the following to the extent they are not already "essential services:"

1. Retail services that may be provided through pickup, delivery by mail, or delivery to the customer's doorstep.
2. Starting at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, May 1, 2020:
 - a) In-store retail services, for retail establishments that operate at up to 25 percent of the total listed occupancy of the retail establishment.
 - b) Dine-in restaurant services, for restaurants that operate at up to 25 percent of the total listed occupancy of the restaurant; provided, however, that (a) this applies only to restaurants that have less than 51 percent of their gross receipts from the sale of alcoholic beverages and are therefore not required to post the 51 percent sign required by Texas law as determined by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, and (b) valet services are prohibited except for vehicles with placards or plates for disabled parking.
 - c) Movie theaters that operate at up to 25 percent of the total listed occupancy of any individual theater for any screening.
 - d) Shopping malls that operate at up to 25 percent of the total listed occupancy of the shopping mall; provided, however, that within shopping malls, the food-court dining areas, play areas, and interactive displays and settings must remain closed.
 - e) Museums and libraries that operate at up to 25 percent of the total listed occupancy; provided, however, that (a) local public museums and local public libraries may so operate only if permitted by the local government, and (b) any components of museums or libraries that have interactive functions or exhibits, including child play areas, must remain closed.
 - f) For Texas counties that have filed with DSHS, and are in compliance with, the requisite attestation form promulgated by DSHS regarding five or fewer cases of COVID-19, those in-store retail services, dine-in restaurant services, movie theaters, shopping malls, and museums and libraries, as otherwise defined and limited above, may operate at up to 50 percent (as opposed to 25 percent) of

- the total listed occupancy.
- g) Services provided by an individual working alone in an office.
 - h) Golf course operations.
 - i) Local government operations, including county and municipal governmental operations relating to permitting, recordation, and document-filing services, as determined by the local government.
 - j) Such additional services as may be enumerated by future executive orders or proclamations by the governor.

The conditions and limitations set forth above for reopened services shall not apply to essential services. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the governor may by proclamation identify any county or counties in which reopened services are thereafter prohibited, in the governor's sole discretion, based on the governor's determination in consultation with medical professionals that only essential services should be permitted in the county, including based on factors such as an increase in the transmission of COVID-19 or in the amount of COVID-19-related hospitalizations or fatalities.

In providing or obtaining essential services or reopened services, people and businesses should follow the minimum standard health protocols recommended by DSHS, found at www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus, and should implement social distancing, work from home if possible, and practice good hygiene, environmental cleanliness, and sanitation. This includes also following, to the extent not inconsistent with the DSHS minimum standards, the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, as well as other CDC recommendations. Individuals are encouraged to wear appropriate face coverings, but no jurisdiction can impose a civil or criminal penalty for failure to wear a face covering.

Religious services should be conducted in accordance with the joint guidance issued and updated by the attorney general and governor.

People shall avoid visiting bars, gyms, public swimming pools, interactive amusement venues such as bowling alleys and video arcades, massage establishments, tattoo studios, piercing studios, or cosmetology salons. The use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options for food and drinks remains allowed and highly encouraged throughout the limited duration of this executive order.

This executive order does not prohibit people from accessing essential or reopened services or engaging in essential daily activities, such as going to the grocery store or gas station, providing or obtaining other essential or reopened services, visiting parks, hunting or fishing, or engaging in physical activity like jogging, bicycling, or other outdoor sports, so long as the necessary precautions are maintained to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and to minimize in-person contact with people who are not in the same household.

In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall not visit nursing homes, state supported living centers, assisted living facilities, or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance as determined through guidance from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). Nursing homes, state supported living centers, assisted living facilities, and long-term care facilities should follow infection control policies and practices set forth by the HHSC, including minimizing the movement of staff between facilities whenever possible.

In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, schools shall remain temporarily closed to in-person classroom attendance by students and shall not

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recommence before the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Public education teachers and staff are encouraged to continue to work remotely from home if possible, but may return to schools to conduct remote video instruction, as well as perform administrative duties, under the strict terms required by the Texas Education Agency. Private schools and institutions of higher education should establish similar terms to allow teachers and staff to return to schools to conduct remote video instruction and perform administrative duties when it is not possible to do so remotely from home.

This executive order shall supersede any conflicting order issued by local officials in response to the COVID-19 disaster, but only to the extent that such a local order restricts essential services or reopened services allowed by this executive order, allows gatherings prohibited by this executive order, or expands the list of essential services or the list or scope of reopened services as set forth in this executive order. I hereby suspend Sections 418.1015(b) and 418.108 of the Texas Government Code, Chapter 81, Subchapter E of the Texas Health and Safety Code, and any other relevant statutes, to the extent necessary to ensure that local officials do not impose restrictions inconsistent with this executive order, provided that local officials may enforce this executive order as well as local restrictions that are consistent with this executive order.

This executive order supersedes Executive Order GA-16, but does not supersede Executive Orders GA-10, GA-11, GA-12, GA-13, GA-15, or GA-17. This executive order shall remain in effect and in full force until 11:59 p.m. on May 15, 2020, unless it is modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded by the governor.



Given under my hand this the 27th
day of April, 2020.

Handwritten signature of Greg Abbott in cursive script.

GREG ABBOTT
Governor

ATTESTED BY:

Handwritten signature of Ruth R. Hughes in cursive script.

RUTH R. HUGHES
Secretary of State

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