

DISASTER DECLARATION and ORDER

NAVARRO COUNTY, TEXAS

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WHEREAS, the novel coronavirus now designated SARS-CoV-2 which causes the disease COVID-19, has spread throughout the world and has now been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump has proclaimed the COVID-19 outbreak a national emergency in the United States; and Governor Greg Abbott has now updated his declaration of a state of disaster for all counties in Texas and has declared there be no more than 10 people in any social gathering; and

WHEREAS, costs incurred to prepare for and respond to COVID-19 are beginning to mount at the county and municipal levels; and

WHEREAS, NAVARRO COUNTY has already taken significant measures to prepare for and prevent the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to take additional steps to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect the health and welfare of NAVARRO COUNTY citizens; and

WHEREAS, declaring a "State of Disaster" in NAVARRO COUNTY will facilitate and expedite the procurement, use, and deployment of resources to enhance preparedness and response, and

WHEREAS, Governor Greg Abbott has issued Executive Order SA-08 with the following specific orders:

- **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.
- **Executive Order GA-08** issued by the Governor on March 19, 2020 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.

Section 1. The Governors Orders and those of the County Judge SHALL be enforced by the Navarro County Sheriff's Department, the Corsicana Police Department, and/or the Law Enforcement of any incorporated or unincorporated city within Navarro County, until 11:59 p.m. on April 3, 2020. This declaration and order hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

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Section 2. This declaration authorizes the County to take any actions necessary to promote health and safety 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 3. This declaration and order hereby limits the size of social gatherings to **not more than 10 people** and mandates the cancellation of all such social gatherings of more than 10 people until further notice. A "social gathering" refers generally to a scheduled event, or common endeavor, where 10 persons are present in a confined space, room, or area.

Section 4. In accordance with Texas Government Code §418.173, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this declaration commits an offense, punishable by a fine up to \$1,000.00 or confinement in jail for a term that does not exceed 180 days.

Section 5. Any persons who are high risk, or they are sick, or have traveled anywhere, but especially overseas, by any means of transportation in close proximity to others, are hereby ordered to NOT KNOWINGLY GO to any function or gathering of ANY group of people, especially if said person is feverish, has a cough, shortness of breath, or any other signs of the virus without specific direction to do so by a doctor or medical personnel. Common sense and the advice of the medical community must prevail!


Section 6. This Disaster Declaration and Order does hereby supersede all previous orders on this matter that are in conflict or inconsistent with its terms.

Section 7. NOW, therefore, I, H. M. Davenport, Jr., the County Judge of NAVARRO COUNTY, TEXAS, do hereby certify that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster to NAVARRO COUNTY, and in accordance with Section 418.018 of the Texas Government Code, I HEREBY DECLARE A STATE OF DISASTER AND PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY FOR NAVARRO COUNTY, TEXAS, and ORDER compliance with Governor Gregg Abbott's Executive Order GA-08 listed above as they pertain to Navarro County as well as any other orders contained in this Declaration and Order.

Section 8. This Declaration and Order shall take effect at **11:59 p.m. Friday March 20, 2020** and upon approval by the Commissioners Court within 7 days, shall continue in effect until terminated by the County Judge. Pursuant to this declaration, additional directives may be issued by the County Judge at any time as deemed necessary to promote the Health and Safety of the citizens of Navarro County.

Section 9. In accordance with the statutory requirements, this declaration shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk of NAVARRO COUNTY.


Declared this 20th day of March, 2020.



H. M. DAVENPORT, JR., NAVARRO COUNTY JUDGE

2020-43
FILED FOR RECORD
AT 1:13 O'CLOCK P.M.

MAR 20 2020

SHERRY DOWD, County Clerk
NAVARRO COUNTY, TEXAS
BY  DEPUTY