



County Judge Lina Hidalgo

DIRECTOR

ORDER BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF HARRIS COUNTY

Whereas, On March 11, 2020, a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency was issued to allow Harris County to take measures to reduce the possibility of exposure to COVID-19 and promote the health and safety of Harris County residents; and

Whereas, on March 13, 2020, a Declaration of State of Disaster was issued by Governor Abbott to take additional steps to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect the health and welfare of Texans; and

Whereas, the COVID-19 virus is contagious and spreads through person-to-person contact, especially in group settings; and

Whereas, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) recommends an “All of Community” approach focused on slowing the transmission of COVID-19 through social distancing to reduce illness and death, while minimizing social and economic impacts; and

Whereas, due to the substantial risks to the public, the following extraordinary measures must be taken to protect the public.

NOW THEREFORE, I, COUNTY JUDGE FOR HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED BY TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 418, HEREBY FIND AND ORDER:

SECTION 1. That the findings and recitations set out in the preamble to this ORDER are found to be true and correct and they are hereby adopted by the County Judge and made a part hereof for all purposes.

SECTION 2. Effective as of 8:00 a.m. on March 17, 2020, and continuing until 11:59 p.m. on March 31, 2020, unless terminated or modified by an earlier order, the County Judge of

the County of Harris, Texas, deems it in the public interest to order that:

(a) Restaurants with or without drive-in or drive-through services and microbreweries, micro-distilleries, or wineries may only provide take out, delivery, or drive-through services as allowed by law,

(b) Bars, nightclubs, lounges, taverns, or arcades and private clubs shall close.

SECTION 3: That the Harris County Sheriff's Office, the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office, and other peace officers, are hereby authorized to enforce this order.

SECTION 4: Harris County will post this Order on its website. In addition, the owner, manager, or operator of any facility that is likely to be impacted by this Order is strongly encouraged to post a copy of this Order onsite and to provide a copy to any member of the public asking for a copy. If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this 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 this order.

SECTION 5: This Order applies to all unincorporated and incorporated areas within the boundaries of Harris County.

ORDERED this the 16th day of March, 2020, in the County of Harris, Texas.

IT IS SO ORDERED



LINA HIDALGO
HARRIS COUNTY JUDGE