

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

WHEREAS, a novel coronavirus now designated SARS-CoV-2 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 31, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued an Executive Order GA 14 certifying that COVID-19 poses an Imminent threat of Disaster in the state; and

WHEREAS, Moore County, Texas will implement the extraordinary measures as set forth in the Governor's Executive Order GA 14 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.

**UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 418.108,
MOORE COUNTY JUDGE ROWDY RHOADES ORDERS:**

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 Moore County shall, except where necessary to provide or obtain essential services, minimize social gatherings and minimize in-person contact with people who are not in the same household.

“Essential services” shall consist of everything listed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in its Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce, Version 2.0, plus religious services conducted in churches, congregations, and houses of worship. A list of essential services can be viewed at www.tdem.texas.gov/essentialservices.

In providing or obtaining essential services, people and business should follow the guidelines from the President and the CDC by practicing good hygiene, environmental cleanliness, and sanitation, implementing social distancing, and working from home if possible. In particular, all services should be provided through remote telework from home unless they are essential services that cannot be provided through remote telework. If religious services cannot be conducted from home or through remote services, they should be conducted consistent with the guidelines from the President and the CDC by practicing good hygiene, environmental cleanliness, and sanitation, and by implementing social distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19

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, massage establishments, tattoo studios, piercing studios, or cosmetology salons; provided however, that the use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options for food and drinks is allowed and highly encouraged throughout the limited duration of this disaster declaration.

This disaster declaration does not prohibit people from essential services or engaging in essential daily activities, such as going to the grocery store or gas station, providing or obtaining other essential services, visiting parks, hunting or fishing, or engaging in physical activity like jogging or bicycling, 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.

In accordance with the guidelines from the President and the CDC, schools shall remain temporarily closed to in-person classroom attendance and shall not recommence before the 2020/2021 school year.

Any person 18 years of age or under is prohibited to remain in a public place or on the premises of any establishment within Moore County during the hours of 10:00 P.M. and 6:00 A.M. unless

they are accompanied by a parent or legal guardian, engaged in an employment activity, or going to or returning home from an employment activity without any detours or stops, or involved in an emergency. This curfew will take effect April 3, 2020 at 10:00 PM and will remain effect until the expiration date of this declaration unless cancelled by the Moore County Commissioner's Court. An offense under this curfew order is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.00.

Except as provided herein, all persons over the age of five (5) are required to wear some form of covering over their nose and mouth, such as a homemade mask, scarf, bandana, handkerchief, or medical mask when: entering into or inside of any building open to the public; when using public transportation, taxis, or ride shares. This section shall not apply to a person that is engaging in a permissible outside physical activity by themselves or with members of their household and or otherwise practicing CDC preventative measures. Facial coverings are not required for riding in a personal vehicle, for person alone in a separate single space, for person within their own shelter group (household members) in their residence. This paragraph will go into effect April 22, 2020 at 12:00 AM.

The penalty for a violation of this section is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars (\$1000.00). Enforcement will begin April 24, 2020 at 12:00 AM.

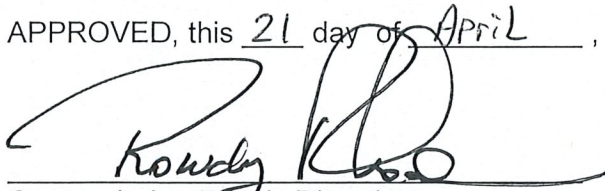
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE COMMISSIONER'S COURT of Moore County:

1. That the state of disaster proclaimed for the County of Moore by the County Judge on April 21, 2020 shall continue until 11:59 P.M. May 2, 2020.

2. This ordinance is passed as an emergency measure and pursuant to §418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code and shall become effective on the 21st day of April 2020 unless otherwise specifically noted.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, this 21 day of April, 2020

APPROVED, this 21 day of April, 2020


County Judge Rowdy Rhoades

Precinct 3 Dee Vaughan

Precinct 1 Daniel Garcia

Precinct 4 Lynn Cartrite

Precinct 2 Miles Mixon

Brenda McKanna
Moore County Clerk
