

**MAVERICK COUNTY, TEXAS**  
**FOURTH DECLARATION OF DISASTER DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**  
**WITH THE CONSENT OF MAVERICK COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT**

**WHEREAS**, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated SARS-CoV2 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 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued a proclamation certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster in the state and declaring a state of disaster for all counties in Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, Maverick County, Texas, is taking extraordinary measures 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; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 18, 2020, the Maverick County Judge, with consent of Commissioner's court issued a declaration of local state of disaster due to public health emergency (1<sup>st</sup> disaster declaration), thereby activating the Maverick County, Texas, Emergency Management Plan. and

**WHEREAS**, on March 20, 2020, the Maverick County Judge, with consent of Commissioners Court, issued a Second Declaration that included a penalty provisions for any person that violates the Declaration of March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**WHEREAS**, on March 22, 2020, the Maverick County Judge, with consent of Commissioners Court, issued a Third Declaration that included closing public parks and libraries and limiting of meetings and implementing a curfew.

**WHEREAS**, on March 25, 2020, the Commissioners Court issued an Order to allow the Maverick County Judge to contract for the purchase of items to protect the public health or safety and exempts these items from §262.023 of the Texas Local Government Code.

**WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued an executive order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, superseding all previous orders on the matter; and

**WHEREAS**, Maverick County, Texas, has determined that extraordinary and immediate measures must be taken to respond quickly, prevent and alleviate the suffering of people exposed to and those infected with the virus, as well as those that could potentially be infected or impacted by COVID-19.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY JUDGE SAUCEDO OF MAVERICK COUNTY, TEXAS, AND WITH THE CONSENT OF MAVERICK COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COURT:**

SECTION 1. That a local state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for Maverick County, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.

SECTION 2. That pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the First, Second, Third and the Order of Maverick County Commissioners Court declaring and finding a Local state of disaster for public health emergency shall continue indefinitely and the Maverick County Commissioner's Court, incorporates said declarations contained therein as well as amends and modifies such declarations as noted below.

SECTION 3. That pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster for public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Secretary.

SECTION 4. That pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates Maverick County, Texas, Emergency Management Plan, and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the declaration.

SECTION 5. That this declaration authorizes the County to take any actions necessary to promote health 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, pursuant to §121.003 of the Health and Safety Code.

SECTION 6. That all County departments and staff will continue operating as detailed previously. In addition, the following restrictions will be enforced:

- a. Maverick County Criminal Court offices shall be closed until further notice.
- b. The Maverick County Parks and Recreations Department shall postpone leagues, events, and activities indefinitely. Fields and courts shall not be allowed to be used or rented until further notice.
- c. All Maverick County public parks will be closed until further notice.
- d. The Maverick County Public Library and all library facilities shall be closed until further notice.

e. All Maverick County Solid Waste Authority and Water Control & Improvement District #1 meetings are hereby until further notice, unless held in conformance with authorization issued by the Governor of Texas on March 16, 2020, which allows meetings via videoconference or telephonic.

#### SECTION 7. STAY AT HOME EMERGENCY MEASURES

a. All individuals currently living within Maverick County, Texas, are ordered to shelter at their place of residence. For the purposes of these Emergency Measures, residences include hotels, motels, shared rentals, and similar facilities. To the extent individuals are using shared or outdoor spaces, they must at all times as reasonably as possible maintain social distancing of at least six feet from any other person when they are outside their residence. All persons may leave their residences only for Essential Activities, or to provide or perform Essential Governmental Functions, or to operate Essential Businesses, all as defined in Section 8 and 9, herein.

b. All businesses operating within Maverick County, Texas, except Essential Businesses as defined in Section 9, herein, are required to cease all activities at facilities located within the County. For clarity, businesses may continue operations consisting exclusively of employees or contractors performing activities at their own residences (i.e. working from home). To the greatest extent possible, all Essential Businesses shall comply with the Social Distancing Guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), found online at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community-mitigation-strategy.pdf>, including maintaining six-foot social distancing for both employees and the general public.

c. All public or private gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household or living unit are prohibited, except as otherwise provided herein. Nothing in this Order prohibits the gathering of members of a household or living unit.

d. Restaurants with or without drive-in or drive-through services may only provide take out, delivery, or drive-through services as allowed by law.

e. Religious and worship services may only be provided by video and teleconference. Religious institutions must limit in-person staff to ten (10) people or less when preparing for or conducting video or teleconference services, and all individuals must follow the Social Distancing Guidelines including the six-foot social distancing.

f. All elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures are prohibited anywhere in Maverick County, Texas. Hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers, dental offices, and other medical facilities are directed to identify procedures that are deemed "elective" by assessing which procedures can be postponed or cancelled based on

patient risk considering the emergency need for redirection of resources to COVID-19 response.

g. If someone in a household has been tested or has tested positive for COVID-19, the household is ordered to isolate at home. Members of the household cannot go to work, school, or any other community function.

SECTION 8. For purposes of these Emergency Measures, adult individuals may leave their residence only to perform any of the following "Essential Activities":

a. To engage in activities or perform tasks essential to their health and safety, or to the health and safety of their family or household members (for example, obtaining medical supplies or medication, visiting a health care professional, or obtaining supplies needed to work from home).

b. To obtain necessary services or supplies for themselves and their family or household members, or to deliver those services or supplies to others (for example, food, pet supply, and any other household consumer products, and products necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences).

c. To engage in outdoor activity, provided the individuals comply with social distancing requirements of six feet (for example, walking, biking, hiking, or running).

d. To perform work providing essential products and services at an Essential Business or to otherwise carry out activities specifically permitted in these Emergency Measures.

e. To care for a family member or pet in another household.

SECTION 9. For purposes of these Emergency Measures, "Essential Businesses" means:

a. Essential Healthcare Operations. Healthcare operations, including hospitals, clinics, dentists, pharmacies, pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, other healthcare facilities, healthcare suppliers, mental health providers, substance abuse service providers, blood banks, medical research, laboratory services, or any related and/or ancillary healthcare services. Home-based and residential-based care for seniors, adults, or children are also considered healthcare operations. Healthcare operations also includes veterinary care and all health and welfare services provided to animals. This exemption shall be viewed broadly to avoid any impacts to the delivery of healthcare. Healthcare operations do not include fitness and exercise gyms and similar facilities. Healthcare operations do not include elective medical, surgical, and dental procedures as established in accordance with Section 7(f) of these Emergency Measures.

b. Essential Government Functions. All services provided by local governments needed to ensure the continuing operation of the government agencies to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the public. Further, nothing in this order shall prohibit any individual from performing or accessing "Essential Government Functions." All Essential Government Functions shall be performed in compliance with social distancing requirements of six feet, to the extent possible.

c. Essential Critical Infrastructure. Work necessary to the operations and maintenance of the 16 critical infrastructure sectors as identified by the National Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA) including public works construction, residential and commercial construction, airport operations, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil refining, roads and highways, public transportation, solid waste collection and removal, internet, and telecommunications systems (including the provision of essential global, national, and local infrastructure for computing services, business infrastructure, communications, and web-based services), financial institutions, defense and national security-related operations, essential manufacturing operations provided that they carry out those services or that work in compliance with social distancing requirements of six feet, to the extent possible. Essential Businesses providing essential infrastructure should implement screening precautions to protect employees and all activity shall be performed in compliance with social distancing guidelines attached.

d. Essential Retail. Food service providers, including grocery stores, warehouse stores, big-box stores, bodegas, gas stations and convenience stores, farmers' markets that sell food products and household staples. Food cultivation, including farming, fishing, and livestock. Businesses that ship or deliver groceries, food, goods or services directly to residences. Restaurants and other facilities that prepare and serve food, but only for delivery or carry out. Liquor stores but only by drive through service., Schools and other entities that typically provide free services to students or members of the public on a pick-up and take-away basis only. The restriction of delivery or carry out does not apply to cafes and restaurants located within hospital and medical facilities. Laundromats, dry cleaners, laundry service providers, gas stations, auto-supply, auto and bicycle repair, hardware stores, businesses that supply products needed for people to work from home, and related facilities are also classified as essential retail. To the extent possible, retail establishments, including but not limited to, grocery stores, pharmacies, pet food stores, warehouse stores, hardware stores, gas stations, or food pantries that provide or sell food products or household staples are ORDERED to establish controls to require a minimum of six feet of distance between patrons in lines queuing in front of and inside stores. Controls may include, but are not limited to, requiring each person to take a shopping cart or placing markers on the floor.

e. Providers of Basic Necessities to Economically Disadvantaged Populations. Businesses that provide food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals.

f. Essential Services Necessary to Maintain Essential Operations of Residences or Other Essential Businesses. Trash and recycling collection, processing and disposal, mail and shipping services, building cleaning, maintenance and security, warehouse/distribution and fulfillment, storage for essential businesses, funeral homes, crematoriums and cemeteries. Plumbers, electricians, exterminators, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operations of residences and Essential Businesses. Professional services, such as legal or accounting services, when necessary to assist in compliance with legally mandated activities. Businesses that supply other essential businesses with support or supplies needed to operate.

g. News Media. Newspapers, television, radio, and other media services.

h. Childcare Services. Childcare facilities providing services that enable employees exempted in this Order to work as permitted.

SECTION 10. Any manufacturer who retools so that a substantial part of their business is for the purpose of manufacturing and producing ventilators or other need equipment or medical supplies may apply for an "essential business" exemption under these Emergency Measures.

SECTION 11. In accordance with executive orders issued by the Governor of Texas, people shall not visit nursing homes, elderly day care nutrition centers, long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.

SECTION 12. Entry into retail establishments, including but not limited to, grocery stores, pharmacies, pet food stores, warehouse stores, hardware stores, and gas stations shall be restricted to one person per family. No person under 17 years of age shall be allowed entry into a grocery stores, pharmacies, pet food stores, warehouse stores, hardware stores, and gas stations as a patron/customer. Employees of the grocery store are exempt from this prohibition.

SECTION 13. All outdoor markets, flea markets, and outdoor retail establishments shall be closed until further notice.

SECTION 14. A 24-hour curfew shall be imposed on residents who are 17 years or younger who are not in school, are not accompanied by school personnel, a parent, or guardian, are not going directly to their place of employment or returning therefrom.

SECTION 15. All public and private school campuses and EPISD administration shall limit attendance only to administration and personnel essential only to administration, sanitation, and food distribution duties. To the extent possible, public and private school campuses and EPISD

administration are ORDERED to establish controls to require a minimum of six feet of distance between essential personnel.

SECTION 16. All public, private, and governmental healthcare facilities operating within Maverick County, Texas, and performing COVID-19 testing shall report by 5:00p.m. each day for the prior 24 hours:

- a. the number of COVID-19 tests performed, and
- b. the number of positive COVID-19 tests to the Maverick County Local Health Authority (Dr. Victoriano Valdez) for Maverick County, Texas, and to the County's designated representative for the Emergency Operations Center if either the specimen is collected in, or the test is performed in Maverick County, Texas. All public, private, and governmental healthcare facilities operating within Maverick County, Texas, and performing COVID-19 testing shall also provide the LHA with identifying patient information to allow the LHA to issue Control Orders as necessary. All residents who travel outside Maverick County, Texas, and outside the United States who are tested for COVID-19 shall also report the test and test results to the LHA. This information will be used solely for public health purposes to monitor the testing conducted in the County and mitigate and contain the spread of COVID-19.

SECTION 17. Pursuant to §121.003 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, Maverick County, Texas, hereby imposes the following rules and regulations, which are designed to protect the health and safety of persons in the municipality and reduce the number of persons spreading viruses, concerning the buses, vans and other non-passenger vehicles with two or more axles providing transportation services, for consideration, by bringing individuals into Maverick County, Texas:

- a. the County prohibits the "drop off" of persons known to have or believed to have COVID- 19 in a public place that is not designed to protect the general public from the transmission of COVID-19;and
- b. the County prohibits non-essential travel which generally prohibits travel except for travel:
  - 1) related to Essential Functions, Essential Governmental Functions, Essential Businesses, or Minimum Basic Operations;
  - 2) for the care for elderly, minors, dependents, persons with disabilities, or other vulnerable persons;
  - 3) to or from educational institutions for purposes of receiving materials for distance learning, for receiving meals, and any other related services;
  - 4) to return to a place of residence from outside the jurisdiction;

- 5) required by law enforcement or court Order;
- 6) required for non-residents to return to their place of residence outside the County; and
- 7) done in compliance with all Social Distancing Requirements imposed under state or federal law.

SECTION 18. In addition and as authorized by§81.086 of the Health and Safety Code, the County further authorizes the local health authority (LHA) to do the following, related to private and common carriers and private conveyances:

a. If the County's Local Health Authority (LHA) has reasonable cause to believe that a carrier (private or common) or conveyance has departed from or traveled through an area infected or contaminated with a communicable disease, the LHA may order the owner, operator, or authorized agent in control of the carrier or conveyance to:

- 1) stop the carrier or conveyance at a port of entry or place of first landing or first arrival in this state; and

- 2) provide information on passengers and cargo manifests that includes the details of:

- a) any illness suspected of being communicable that occurred during the journey;

- b) any condition on board the carrier or conveyance during the journey that may lead to the spread of disease; and

- c) any control measures imposed on the carrier or conveyance, its passengers or crew, or its cargo or any other object on board during the journey.

b. Impose any quarantine type control measure, authorized under§§ 81.083 and 81.084 of the Health and Safety Code;

c. If the LHA has reasonable cause to believe that a carrier or conveyance is transporting cargo or an object that is or may be infected or contaminated with a communicable disease, the department or health authority may:

- 1) require that the cargo or object be transported in secure confinement or sealed in a car, trailer, hold, or compartment, as appropriate, that is secured

on the order and instruction of the LHA, if the cargo or object is being transported through this state;

2) require that the cargo or object be unloaded at an alternate location equipped with adequate investigative and disease control facilities if the cargo or object is being transported to an intermediate or ultimate destination in this state that cannot provide the necessary facilities; and

3) investigate and, if necessary, quarantine the cargo or object and impose any required control measure as authorized by § 81.084 of the Health and Safety Code; and

d. The LHA may require an individual transported by carrier or conveyance who the LHA has reasonable cause to believe has been exposed to or is the carrier of a communicable disease to be isolated from other travelers and to disembark with the individual's personal effects and baggage at the first location equipped with adequate investigative and disease control facilities, whether the person is in transit through this state or to an intermediate or ultimate destination in this state. The LHA may investigate and, if necessary, isolate or involuntarily hospitalize the individual until the LHA approves the discharge as authorized by §81.083 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

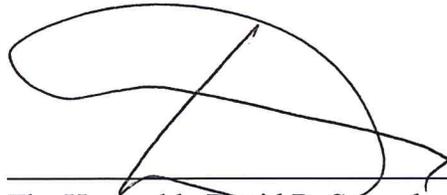
SECTION 19. That this declaration requires all persons and entities to comply with the social distancing protocols established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), found online at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community-mitigation-strategy.pdf> be followed, including cancelling, rescheduling, or not attending events with more than 10 people. In addition, this declaration (1) strongly encourages and recommends compliance with all CDC guidelines regarding the COVID-19 and (2) requires laboratories, workplaces, healthcare professionals, health care facilities and all other industries and groups that are specifically identified by the CDC to comply with, follow and implement the CDC's guidance for their respective industry or group regarding the COVID-19.

SECTION 20. This declaration, with the consent of Maverick County Commissioner's Court, is issued because of the propensity of the COVID-19 to spread person to person, and because the virus physically causing property loss and damage.

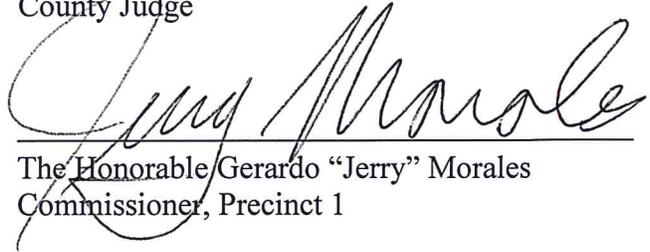
SECTION 21. In accordance with Texas Government Code §418.173, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this declaration commits an offense, punishable by a fine up to \$1,000.00 or confinement in jail for a term that does not exceed 180 days.

SECTION 22. That this declaration, with the Consent of the Maverick County Court, hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

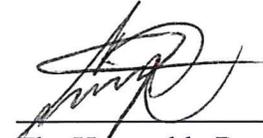
SECTION 23. That this declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.



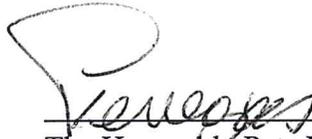
The Honorable David R. Saucedo  
County Judge



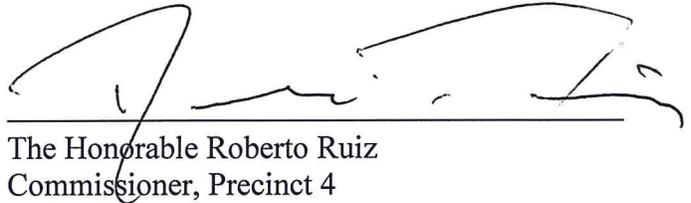
The Honorable Gerardo "Jerry" Morales  
Commissioner, Precinct 1



The Honorable Rosy Cantu  
Commissioner, Precinct 2



The Honorable Pete Venegas  
Commissioner, Precinct 3



The Honorable Roberto Ruiz  
Commissioner, Precinct 4

Filed with the Clerk of Maverick County, Texas:



The Honorable Sara Montemayor  
County Clerk

Date: 3.31.20