

**EXECUTIVE ORDER  
DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER FOR  
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

Whereas, beginning in December 2019, a Novel Coronavirus now designated SARS-COV2 which causes the disease COVID-19, has spread through out the world and has now been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

Whereas, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, coughing, shortness in breath and death in some of the cases, and

Whereas, the COVID-19 virus mainly spreads between those individuals who are in close contact with another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes;

Whereas, extraordinary measures must be taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent the spread throughout La Salle County, Texas that include banning individuals, groups of individuals or property to undergo additional measures that prevent the control of the disease;

Whereas, said State of Disaster requires certain emergency protective measures be taken pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 relating to Emergency Management and Public Health, pursuant to Texas Government Code Chapter 418;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE and COMMISSIONERS COURT OF LA SALLE COUNTY, TEXAS;**

1. That a state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for La Salle County, Texas pursuant to section 418.108 (a) of Texas Government Code:
2. That, pursuant to section 418.108 of the Texas Government Code, the state of disaster for public health emergency shall continue until April 3, 2020 extending the County Judges Declaration unless continued or renewed by the Commissioners Court of La Salle County;
3. That pursuant to section 418.108 (d) 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 with the County and District Clerk;
4. That pursuant to section 418.108 (d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the La Salle County Texas Emergency Management Plan;

5. Whereas in addition to Governor Greg Abbot declaration of closure of all bars and restaurants or going to gyms (take out, delivery and drive though are still allowed), visitation to all nursing homes and long term care facilities and closure of all schools until April 3, 2020 at midnight including the gathering where 10 people or more are expected to attend or congregate are hereby prohibited including but not limited to: Privately operated game rooms, County parks, county owned practice fields and county pool; mass gathering events include private and social events held on private property and residents;
6. Whereas in working with local business and in order to provide the need to have sufficient staples for residents during this pandemic, the local grocery store will provide dedicated time from 8:00 am to 9:00 am to senior residents to purchase at the LOWES Store, where as the County EMT, South Texas Rural Health staff and other medical staff will provide temperature testing and screening to all patrons at the Lowes Grocery Store, any patron with signs of illness will not be allowed in the store, however, employees will work with the patron to provide the needed staples and requested items to tend to the need of the patron; screening will be offered to the extent of available staff;
7. Whereas, the County of La Salle will be providing Commercial Sterilization of places using an EPA approved contractor to provide decontamination of high traffic areas in the County including the Courthouse, Jails, Public Buildings, Kitchens and commercial establishments providing food or food products exempt by this declaration or any other declaration by Federal, State or local authorities;
8. Whereas, the County will require establishments providing essential services to have markers at Cash registers clearly marking 6 feet from the first customer at the cash register and backward to follow social distancing recommendations; establishments meeting Governor's Abbotts requirement as essential services are required to follow the mass gathering declaration and keep a distance of 6 ft between all patrons, patrons and employees, employees and employees, employees and vendors, these establishments including Grocery Stores, Variety Stores offering food, gas and other staples, it is further required that these establishments only allow one adult person per family to enter the establishment to purchase necessary products, no child under the age of 18 will be allowed to enter the establishment alone without a parent, grandparent or guardian;
9. Where as a 24 hour curfew will be in place for children under the age of 18 unless with adult parent, grandparent, guardian or close adult relative Monday through Sunday, children will be allowed to play outside the residence of the adult parent, grandparent or guardian; however, any congregation of children without the adult parent, grandparent or guardian and in groups of more than 10 will not be allowed;
10. Whereas, County Employees, Law Enforcement, Fire Department Staff, Jail and Communication staff are considered as first responders in addressing this pandemic and

unable to take leave during this period will be given 10 days to take as needed, Road and Bridge and County Staff will also be given 10 days to take off during the pandemic, if the leave is not used it maybe banked as leave for later use but must be used before the end of the year. Any employee that feels that FLMA applies to their situation due to the pandemic should but their request in writing to their immediate supervisor.

11. Whereas all county offices with remain open; however, each office will only be allowed 2 taxpayers to be served at a time for each office, the county will take a temperature reading for all persons entering the Courthouse, county time clocks will not be used; in the event an office cannot be open then a notice should be placed on the door instructing include methods of communication and providing methods of addressing the citizens needs relating to the visit;
12. Whereas County Jails will be screening defendants to help prevent infection of the local jails, any defendant meeting systems set for by the CDC will be referred to South Texas Rural Health Clinic for further screening, in the event a local screening is not possible then the referral of the defendant will be to Frio County Hospital for further screening;
13. Whereas the County of La Salle has closed its indoor dining for services provided to its elderly population over 60 years of age but will be providing home delivered meals to elderly patrons of the La Salle County Elderly Nutrition Center, any elderly without the care of a home provider may contact the Elderly Nutrition Center for home delivered meals during this period of pandemic, the County will also reach out to local businesses to contract for breakfast options for elderly clients being serviced if possible.

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE 418.173, A PERSON WHO KNOWINGLY OR INTENTIONALLY VIOLATES THIS ORDER COMMITS AN OFFENSE PUNISHIBLE BY A FINE UP TO \$1000 OR CONFINEMENT IN JAIL FOR A TERM NOT TO EXCEED 180 DAYS.**

**THE PURPOSE OF THIS ORDER IS FOR EMERGENCY PROTECTIVE MEASURES, MITIGATION PROCEDURES AND RESPONSE PLANS TO THIS PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY. CAPTIAN SEAN WALLACE, EMT FIREMAN IS THE DESIGNATED PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE FOR THE COUNTY OF LA SALLE (830-202-4322)**

IN TESTIMONY, WHEREOF, THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF LA SALLE COUNTY, ADOPT AND AFFIX THE SEAL OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT AT THE LA SALLE COUNTY COURTHOUSE THIS 23<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2020 IN COMPLIANCE WITH POSTING REQUIREMENTS OF THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT AND EFFECTIVE UPON SIGNATURE AND LASTING UNTIL MIDNIGHT APRIL 3, 2020 UNLESS THE ORDER IS FURTHER EXTENDED OR AMENDED. APPROVED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE THE COMMISSIONERS OF 5 FOR THE DECLARATION WITH NO VOTES AGAINST.

  
COUNTY JUDGE JOEL RODRIGUEZ  
LA SALLE COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:

  
MARGARITA ESQUEDA  
LA SALLE COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLERK

