



JEFF R. BRANICK
County Judge

Jefferson County Courthouse
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March 13, 2020

Governor Greg Abbott
c/o Nim Kidd, TDEM

FAX: 512-424-2444

RE: Jefferson County Declaration of Disaster

Dear Governor Abbott,

On March 13, 2020 I, as County Judge of Jefferson County, entered an Order declaring Jefferson County to be in a state of disaster (copy attached) because of the extreme potential for health hazards posed by COVID-19. This Declaration of Disaster for Public Health Emergency. A copy of this Declaration is being faxed to your offices.

We are requesting that you extend your prompt attention in this regard and assist Jefferson County and your assistance in this regard will be greatly appreciated. If you require anything further, please contact me in my office.

Sincerely,

Jeff Branick
County Judge, Jefferson County



DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, and has since spread throughout the world; and,

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, coughing, and shortness of breath. In some cases the virus has caused death; and,

WHEREAS, extraordinary measures must be taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout Jefferson County, Texas, including the quarantine of individuals, groups of individuals, and property and, additionally, including compelling individuals, groups of individuals, or property to undergo additional health measures that prevent or control the spread of disease; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, TEXAS:

- I. That a local state of disaster for public health emergency is hereby declared for Jefferson County, Texas pursuant to section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
2. Pursuant to section 418.108 (b) of the Government Code, the state of disaster for public health emergency shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the Commissioners Court of Jefferson County, Texas.
3. Pursuant to section 418.108(c) of the 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 Clerk.
4. Pursuant to section 418.108 (d) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Jefferson County emergency management plan.
5. Any individual, group of individuals, or property subject to a Local Health Authority Order restricting the movement of that individual or group of individuals or restricting movement to, from, or within that property, shall limit ingress and egress and take such measures as specified by that Local Health Authority Order.
6. That this declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

DECLARES this the 13th day of March, 2020.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeff Branick", is written over a horizontal line.

Jeff R. Branick
Jefferson County, Judge