



JEFF R. BRANICK
County Judge

FOURTH AMENDED EMERGENCY ORDER

I, Jeff R. Branick, duly elected Judge of Jefferson County, based on most recent information received from the Emergency Management Offices personnel and Public Health Authorities issue this **ORDER REGARDING THE OCCUPANCY OF PREMISES THROUGHOUT THE JEFFERSON COUNTY, TEXAS, INCLUDING MUNICIPALITIES:**

Under the authority granted to me by Chapter 418, Texas Government Code, a disaster declaration has been issued effective on March 13, 2020. Additionally pursuant to Section 418.108(d) (g), Texas Government Code, I hereby issue the following orders in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Center for Disease Control:

- 1) Any event sponsored or permitted by Jefferson County shall cease.
- 2) Events greater than 10 persons shall cease at all public facilities across Jefferson County.
- 3) Regarding privately owned facilities: There shall be no gathering of more than 10 persons.
- 4) Bars and nightclubs shall be closed.
Restaurants shall close for dine-in services but may use delivery and take out options.
- 5) Grocery stores and convenience stores are encouraged to remain open but citizens are urged to use the delivery or curbside services of local super markets.
- 6) Nursing homes and senior living centers shall limit visitation of the public within their facilities.
- 7) It is hereby ORDERED that a twenty-four (24) hour curfew shall be in place immediately throughout Jefferson County for all individuals who:
 - a) are under the age of 18,
 - b) are not in school,
 - c) are not accompanied by school personnel, a parent or guardian, or
 - d) are not going directly to their place of employment or going directly home from that place of employment.

This Order does not apply to special needs students during the times local school districts are required by federal law to provide those students services.

WHEREAS, this state of disaster requires that certain emergency measures be taken pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975 relating to Emergency Management;

It is therefore Ordered that the following regulations shall take effect immediately upon execution of this Order and shall remain in effect until the state of disaster is terminated or this Order may be amended:

PRICE CONTROLS

A person shall not sell any of the following goods or services for more than the price the person charged for the goods or services before March 12, 2020:

- a) groceries, beverages, toilet articles, ice;
- b) construction and building materials and supplies and earthmoving equipment and machinery;
- c) electrical and gas generating and transmission equipment, parts and accessories;
- d) charcoal briquettes, matches, candles, lamp illumination and heat unit carbides, dry batteries, light bulbs, flashlights, and hand lanterns;
- e) hand tools(manual and power), hardware and household supplies, and equipment rental;
- f) automotive parts, supplies and accessories;
- g) plumbing and electrical tools and supplies;
- h) apartment, duplex, multi-family dwelling, rooming house, hotel and motel rental;
- i) gasoline, diesel oil, motor oil, kerosene, grease, and automotive lubricants;
- j) restaurant, cafeteria and boarding house meals;
- k) services of roofing and building contractors, plumbers, electricians, mechanics, tree surgeons, and automobile wrecker companies;
- l) medicine, pharmaceuticals, medical equipment and supplies;
- m) blankets, quilts, bedspreads, bed liners, mattresses, bedsprings, bedsheets, bedsteads, towels and toilet paper; and
- n) furniture and clothing.

PENALTIES

These price control regulations shall have the effect of ordinances when duly filed with the County Clerk.

Any person who violates any provision of these regulations, upon conviction, is punishable by a fine of not more than Five hundred (\$500.00) dollars.

By this same authority, I hereby exempt the following classes of individuals from this Emergency Order, PROVIDED that employers are providing appropriate screenings of their employees for COVID-19, as outlined by the Center for Disease Control and sending those home those who display with such symptoms:

1. Those employees of oil terminals, pipelines and oil supply facilities and servicing contractors that are essential for and who are actively involved in the operations of the facilities, transportation and receiving of oil and chemical supplies, refining and

operations petrochemical facilities, in Jefferson County and such other employees who are deemed essential to the operation of such facilities by their employer.

2. Those employees of hospitals, trauma centers, nursing homes, convalescent facilities or other healthcare providers who are essential for and who are actively involved in providing medical treatment and/or housing for persons who are ill or infirm and who are not evacuated.

3. Those employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments, Political Subdivisions, and Special Purpose Districts who are deemed essential by their employer for law enforcement activities, emergency response operations, including jury operations.

This order does **NOT** extend to law enforcement activities, emergency response operations, court operations, including jury operations, and to all school districts of Jefferson County.

The Mayor of each City within Jefferson County shall determine the scope of operations of municipal employees.

All Jefferson County Employees must report for work as required by their supervisors. All work related travel of County employees shall cease.

This order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until amended or terminated.

Signed at 9:00 am. March 19, 2020.



Jeff R. Branick, County Judge