



DICKENS COUNTY
Kevin Brendle
County Judge

ORDER OF DICKENS COUNTY JUDGE KEVIN BRENDLE

WHEREAS, beginning in December, 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated as SARS-CoV-2, was detected in mainland China, and has since spread throughout the world, with the virus causing a respiratory illness designated COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a worldwide pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is an extremely contagious disease spread through person-to-person contact and respiratory droplet mechanisms (with some evidence that it may also possibly be spread via airborne mechanisms), and poses a particular threat to various vulnerable groups, including the elderly and those with many preexisting conditions; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott signed a proclamation declaring a state of disaster in all counties in the State of Texas, authorizing the use of all available resources of state government and of political subdivisions that are reasonably necessary to cope with this disaster; and

WHEREAS, as of April 1st, 2020, confirmed cases of COVID-19 have been found in over half of the counties in Texas, including every major city in the state; and

FILED FOR RECORD
THIS 1st DAY OF April 2020
AT 4:20 O'CLOCK P M
BECKY HILL
COUNTY CLERK, DICKENS CO., TEXAS
BY Becky Hill DEPUTY

WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19 throughout the state, including in to places where citizens of Dickens County travel for essential supplies and services renders the disease an imminent threat to the public health of the citizens of Dickens County;

WHEREAS, Governor Greg Abbott issued an Executive Order on Thursday, March 19, 2020 issuing orders for Texans to adhere to certain control measures and mitigation strategies, and has issued a series of additional Executive Orders since that date adding additional control measures, which order has been superseded and supplemented by a further Executive Order (GA-14) issued on Tuesday, March 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Commissioner of State Health Services declared a Public Health Disaster for the entire State of Texas on Thursday, March 19, 2020 and outlines certain control measures and mitigation strategies; and

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2020, Dickens County Judge Kevin Brendle signed a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency for the County of Dickens, Texas related to COVID-19 pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS said state of disaster requires that certain extraordinary preventative control measures must be therefore taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout Dickens County on an emergency basis pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, codified as Texas Gov't Code, Chapter 418;

BE IT THEREFORE ORDERED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF DICKENS COUNTY:

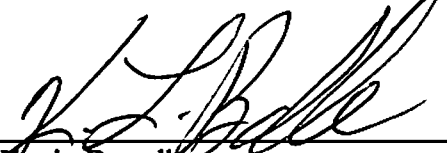
- 1. Effective as of 11:59 p.m. on April 6, 2020, and continuing until 11:59 p.m. on April 13, 2020:
 - a) To the extent individuals are using shared or outdoor spaces, they must at all times as reasonably as possible maintain social distancing of at least six (6) feet from any other person when they are outside their residence.****

- b) To the greatest extent possible, all businesses in Dickens County shall comply with the social distancing guidelines set forth or incorporated herein, including maintaining six (6) foot social distancing for both employees and the general public. Businesses are also strongly urged to maximize telecommuting and suspend or discourage nonessential employee travel. Businesses shall monitor the health and well-being of their employees on a daily basis and take appropriate measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace.
- c) In accordance with the Guidelines from the President, the Centers for Disease Control, and the Texas Department of State Health Services, every person in Dickens County shall avoid social gatherings in groups of more than ten (10) people.
- d) All public or private gatherings (other than religious services) of more than ten (10) people occurring in an enclosed or confined space are prohibited, except as otherwise provided herein. Nothing in this Order prohibits the gathering of a family group, defined herein as those members of a household or residence staying or residing together within that household or residence. This prohibition includes all non-social gatherings with the exception that a gathering can be held with more than ten (10) people in a space where there is a minimum of six (6) feet between each individual or family group in that gathering for the duration of the gathering, with greater separation encouraged.
- e) Religious institutions are strongly urged to provide religious and worship services by video and/or teleconference. In accord with Executive Order GA-14, religious institutions may also be permitted to conduct worship services in a facility as long as at least six (6) feet of distance is maintained between individuals and/or family groups.
- f) Restaurants with or without drive-in or drive-through services and bars, microbreweries, micro-distilleries, or wineries may only provide take out, delivery, or drive-through services as allowed by law.
- g) In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall avoid visiting gyms and massage parlors, and personal services businesses such as hairdressers, barbers, and nail salons.

- h) If a Dickens County resident exhibits symptoms of respiratory illness, that person shall report the illness to a medical provider promptly, preferably via telephone, and shall follow all directions of the medical provider, including any testing recommended by said provider.
 - i) If someone staying or residing in a household (including as a guest) has tested positive for coronavirus, the remaining members of the family group staying or residing within that household are ordered to quarantine at home for the duration of the infected person's illness plus an additional fourteen (14) days, unless otherwise directed by the Local Health Authority. Members of a quarantined household cannot leave the household for any purpose, including to go to work, school, or any other community functions during the quarantine period.
 - j) In accordance with the Guidelines from the President, the CDC, and the Governor, schools shall temporarily close until at least May 4, 2020.
 - k) People shall avoid public playground equipment.
 - l) Governmental entities in Dickens County are encouraged to maintain essential services and infrastructure necessary for the public good and safety while complying with the spirit of this Order as much as practicable in their continued daily operations.
 - m) Dickens County residents are strongly encouraged to remain in their residences as much as possible and limit trips outside their residences to work and trips for essential items only. Any residents that are at highest risk (those over 65, or who have a history of cardiovascular disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, or asthma, among other possible conditions) should, to the greatest extent feasible, remain at home at all times.
2. This order is subject to extension or modification at the discretion of the Dickens County Commissioners Court.

3. Pursuant to Government Code §418.173, violation of this Order is an offense punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days.

ORDERED this the 6th day of April, 2020.



Kevin Brendle
Dickens County Judge