



AUSTIN COUNTY
TIM LAPHAM
County Judge

DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

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

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

WHEREAS, extraordinary measures must be taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout Austin County; and

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

1. That a state of disaster is declared for Austin County, Texas pursuant to Section 418.108 (a) of the Texas Government Code.
2. That the County's Emergency Management Plan has been implemented.
3. That this state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days of the date hereof, unless the same is continued by consent of the Commissioners Court of the County of Austin, Texas.
4. Pursuant to section 418.108 (c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of the local state of disaster for public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
5. Pursuant to the Texas Government Code, the Austin County Judge, Office of Emergency Management, and Local Health Authority strongly urges compliance with the following:

All gatherings should adhere to the most current recommendations promulgated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Federal and/or State guidelines

6. That this proclamation shall take effect immediately.
7. Pursuant to Chapter 814, Sec. 418.173 Texas Government Code, any violation of the Governor's Orders constitutes an offense committed under this statute and is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000.00 dollars or confinement in jail for a term no greater than 180 days.

ORDERED this 23rd day of March, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. / p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Lapham".

Tim Lapham
Austin County Judge