

STATE OF TEXAS      §  
§  
COUNTY OF NEWTON      §



PO S T E D

MAR 30 2018

No. 5951

TIME 3:30 PM  
BY: Sandra K. Duckworth  
SANDRA K. DUCKWORTH, COUNTY CLERK

## DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER

**WHEREAS**, Newton County, Texas on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018 is in imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from countywide conditions created by torrential rainfall and severe thunderstorms, affecting Newton County by causing flooding in populated areas as well as major infrastructure damage preventing access to or the safe passage on many roadways and damaging homes and businesses. Such conditions have created a public safety hazard.

**WHEREAS**, the County Judge of Newton County, Texas, has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to protect life, as well as to protect or rehabilitate property, which are necessary and hereby ordered.

**WHEREAS**, this current State of Emergency and Declaration of Local Disaster shall remain in effect for seven days unless extended by action of the Newton County Commissioners' Court.

### NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF NEWTON COUNTY:

- I. That a local state of disaster is hereby declared for Newton County, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
- II. Pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of disaster 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 Newton County, Texas.
- III. Pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
- IV. Pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the county/city Emergency Management Plan.

ORDERED this 30<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018.

Paul Price  
Paul Price, County Judge  
Newton County, Texas



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COUNTY OF NEWTON

5952

### ORDER OF VOLUNTARY EVACUATION

Whereas on this, the 30th day of March, 2018, with extremely heavy rainfall, tropical storm-force winds and high tides, thereby endangering the health and safety of persons and property within Newton County, Texas.

Whereas unincorporated areas of Newton County along the Sabine River are expected to be impassable due to heavy rain and Sabine River flooding;

Whereas a local state of disaster for Newton County has been declared; and

Whereas the County Judge is authorized under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Texas to take such actions as the County Judge considers necessary for the preservation of life or other disaster mitigation, response, and recovery.

That:

Now therefore, it is hereby ordered by the County Judge of Newton County, Texas:

- 1) The County Judge **FINDS** that a **VOLUNTARY EVACUATION** of persons from the unincorporated areas of Newton County, Texas along low lying areas of the Sabine River is necessary for the preservation of life or other disaster mitigation, response, or recovery;
- 2) A **VOLUNTARY EVACUATION** of persons from the unincorporated areas of Newton County, Texas, located along low lying areas of the Sabine River is hereby **ORDERED**; these areas correspond to the unincorporated areas of Newton County located in the following zip codes: **75966, 75932, 75933, 75928 and 77614**.
- 3) Unless any other order is issued to the contrary, this **VOLUNTARY EVACUATION** issued herein **SHALL BEGIN ON FRIDAY, MARCH 30, 2018 at 3:00 P.M.**
- 4) The issuance of the **VOLUNTARY EVACUATION** shall **NOT** preclude the County Judge from taking further actions the County Judge considers necessary for the preservation of life or other disaster mitigation, response, or recovery, including but not limited to issuing an order for mandatory evacuation;
- 5) This **ORDER** shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk of Newton County, Texas; and
- 6) This **ORDER** shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

It is here ORDERED on this, the 30<sup>th</sup> of March, 2018.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul Price".

Paul Price, Newton County Judge