



**WALLER COUNTY**  
**Carbett “Trey” J. Duhon III**  
**County Judge**

**ORDER OF WALLER COUNTY JUDGE CARBETT “TREY” J. DUHON III**

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, Waller County Judge Trey Duhon signed a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency for the County of Waller, Texas related to COVID-19 pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code; and

WHEREAS, the Declaration of Emergency was extended by unanimous vote of the Waller County Commissioners Court on March 25, 2020, which extended the State of Local Disaster related to COVID-19 until terminated by Commissioners Court; and

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 Waller County; and

WHEREAS, Governor Greg Abbott issued an Executive Order on Thursday, March 19, 2020 and on Tuesday, March 31, 2020, issuing orders for Texans to adhere to certain control measures and mitigation strategies; 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;

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

- Effective as of 12:01 a.m. on April 2, 2020, and continuing until 11:59 p.m. on April 30, 2020
  - Every person in Waller County shall comply with Governor Abbott's Executive Order dated March 31, 2020, and every person in Waller County shall, except where necessary to provide or obtain essential services, minimize social gatherings, and minimize in-person contact with people who are not in the same household.
  - To the greatest extent possible, all businesses in Waller County providing essential services, as defined by Governor Abbott's Executive Order of March 31, 2020, shall comply with the Social Distancing Guidelines attached, including maintaining six foot social distancing for both employees and the general public. Businesses providing essential services are also strongly urged to maximize telecommuting and suspend or discourage nonessential employee travel. Businesses providing essential services 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.
  - All public or private gatherings of more than 10 people occurring outside a single household or residence are prohibited, except as otherwise provided herein. Nothing in this Order prohibits the gathering of members of a household or residence. This prohibition includes all non-social gatherings with the exception that a gathering at a business providing essential services can be held with more than 10 people in a space where there is a minimum of 6 feet between each individual in that gathering for the duration of the gathering. For example, to maintain a 3 ft radius around an individual, we will use a 6' x 6' square of 36 square feet. In order to conduct a business meeting or a church worship service of 20 people, the space in which the meeting is conducted

must contain at least 720 square feet, which could equate to a room that is roughly 27' x 27'.

- Religious institutions are strongly urged to provide religious and worship services by video and/or teleconference. Religious institutions may also conduct worship services outdoors as long as at least six feet distance is maintained between individuals and/or family units. Religious institutions that conduct worship services indoors must do so in accordance with Governor Abbott's Executive Order of March 31, 2020, and adhere to the social distancing guidelines as outlined in the previous paragraph.
- In accordance with the recommendations of the CDC and the White House Coronavirus Task Force, people shall avoid eating and drinking at bars, restaurants and food courts; provided, however, that the use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options for food and drinks is allowed and highly encouraged throughout the duration of this Order.
- In accordance with the recommendations of the CDC and the White House Coronavirus Task Force, people shall avoid visiting gyms, massage parlors, tattoo studios, piercing studios, or cosmetology salons.
- Nursing homes, retirement, and long-term care facilities are instructed by this Order to prohibit non-essential visitors from accessing their facilities unless to provide critical assistance or for an end-of-life event, as allowed by the facility.
- If someone in a household has tested positive for coronavirus, the household is ordered to isolate at home for 14 days until or unless otherwise directed by the Local Health Authority. Members of the household cannot go to work, school, or any other community functions during the isolation period.
- In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, schools shall temporarily close to in-person classroom attendance and shall not recommence before May 4, 2020 in accordance with Governor Abbott's Executive Order dated March 31, 2020.
- People shall avoid public playground equipment.
- Governmental entities in Waller 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.