



**AN ORDER ISSUED BY THE
COMMISSIONERS COURT OF WICHITA COUNTY
APRIL 27, 2020**

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump declared a national emergency regarding COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, March 13, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott declared a statewide emergency regarding COVID-19; and,

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus is contagious and spreads through person-to-person contact, especially in group settings; and,

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, Governor Abbott issued Executive Order GA-08 Relating to COVID-19 Preparedness and Mitigating, stating people shall avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people and closed all schools until April 3, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, and March 23, 2020, due to the substantial risks to the public, County Judge Woodrow W. Gossom, Jr., issued an order deeming it in the public interest to prohibit anywhere in Wichita County, Community Gatherings of more than 10 people; and,

WHEREAS, at his March 22, 2020 press conference, the Governor acknowledged that the urban centers may need to enact more stringent measures to address this public health emergency and stated that he would applaud the cities for doing so; and,

WHEREAS, as of April 24, 2020, there are 21,944 persons confirmed to have COVID-19 in Texas, with 62 of those residing in Wichita County, Texas; and,

WHEREAS, this order does not conflict with Governor Abbott's Executive Order GA-18 issued on April 27, 2020, as it does not restrict essential services or reopened services allowed by GA-18, nor does this Order allow gatherings prohibited by GA-18.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF WICHITA COUNTY, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED BY TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 418 AND OVERRIDDEN BY THE GOVERNOR, HEREBY FINDS, RESOLVES AND ORDERS THAT:

1. The findings and recitations set out in the preamble to this Order are incorporated herein and found to be true and correct, and they are hereby adopted by the ~~County Judge~~ Commissioners Court and made a part hereof for all purposes. This Order rescinds and replaces prior Orders.

The previously declared local state of disaster for Wichita County, Texas, is hereby renewed and continued, as amended herein.

Pursuant to §418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, this renewal and continuance of the declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.

Pursuant to §418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this renewal and continuance of the declaration of a local state of disaster activates the County's emergency management plan as limited by the Governor.

2. Effective Date. This modified Order is effective 5:00 p.m. (CDT) April 27, 2020, and continues until terminated or modified by a subsequent Order.

3. COVID-19 Guidelines. It is strongly recommended that Individuals and Business should follow the Guidelines from the President, the CDC, Texas Department of Health and Human Services and GA-18, by practicing good hygiene, environmental cleanliness, and sanitation, implementing social distancing, and working from home if possible. In particular, it is recommended that all work and services be provided through remote telework from home unless they cannot be provided through remote telework.

4. Reporting of COVID-19 Tests.

- (a) All doctors located in Wichita County ordering COVID-19 testing and all public, private, and commercial laboratories operating within Wichita County and performing COVID-19 testing shall report to Lou Kreidler, Director of the Wichita Falls-Wichita County Public Health District or her designee, at 940-761-7803, the following information:
1. report by 5:00 p.m. each day for the prior 24-hour period the number of COVID-19 tests performed;
 2. report immediately the number of positive COVID-19 tests; and,
 3. report by 5:00 p.m. each day for the prior 24-hour period the number of negative COVID-19 tests.
- (b) This information will be used solely for public health purposes in the County to mitigate and contain the spread of COVID-19.

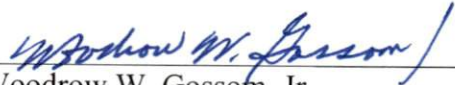
5. Federal Authority. The Sheppard Air Force Base Installation Commander may set conflicting rules for the installation in accordance with the authorities inherent in the position and consistent with Federal law and department regulations, measures necessary to ensure mission accomplishment, to ensure good order and discipline, and to maintain the health, safety, and morale of Sheppard Air Force Base personnel.

6. Failure to Comply. Failure to comply with any of the provisions of this Order constitutes an imminent threat to public health.


7. Posting of this Order. The Wichita Falls/Wichita County Public Health District will post this Order on its website.

8. Savings Clause. If any provision of this Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, then the remainder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.

ORDERED this the 27th day of April, 2020, in Wichita County, Texas, in witness whereof I subscribe my name and cause to be affixed the seal of the Wichita County.


Woodrow W. Gosson, Jr.
Wichita County County Judge

Attested to and filed with me, the County Clerk of Wichita County, Texas this 28th day of April, 2020.


Lori Bohannon, County Clerk
Wichita County, Texas

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF WICHITA

I hereby certify that this instrument was FILED on the date and the time stamped hereon by me and was duly RECORDED in the Records of Wichita County, Texas.

20205873 415
04/28/2020 04:26 PM





Lori Bohannon, County Clerk
Wichita County, Texas

Order 4/28/2020