



## DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has been recognized globally as a contagious respiratory virus; and

WHEREAS, I, Darrel L. Lux, Kendall County Judge, issued a disaster declaration on March 16, 2020, certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster for Kendall County, Texas; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to spread and to pose an increasing, imminent threat of disaster throughout Kendall County, Texas, the United States, and the World; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has advised that person-to-person contact heightens the risk of COVID-19 transmission; and

WHEREAS, the President's Coronavirus Guidelines for America, as promulgated by President Donald J. Trump and the CDC on March 16, 2020, call upon Americans to slow the spread of COVID-19 by avoiding social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people, using drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options at restaurants and bars, and avoiding visitation at nursing homes, among other steps; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Department of State Health Services has now determined that, as of March 19, 2020, COVID-19 represents a public health disaster within the meaning of Chapter 81 of the Texas Health and Safety Code; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, the County Judge may declare a local state of disaster in and for the County and may exercise the powers granted therein on an appropriate local scale.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Darrel L. Lux, Kendall County Judge, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, do hereby order the following on a countywide basis effective 11:59 p.m. on March 20, 2020, and continuing until 11:59 p.m. on April 3, 2020, subject to extension thereafter based on the status of COVID-19 in Texas and the recommendations of the CDC:

Order No. 1 In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, every person in Texas shall avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people.

Order No. 2 In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts, or visiting gyms or massage parlors; provided, however, that the use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options is allowed and highly encouraged throughout the limited duration of this executive order.

Order No. 3 In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, people shall not visit nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.

Order No. 4 In accordance with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC, schools shall temporarily close.

This Declaration does not prohibit people from visiting a variety of places, including grocery stores, gas stations, parks, and banks, so long as the necessary precautions are maintained to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. This Declaration does not mandate sheltering in place. All critical infrastructure will remain operational, domestic travel will remain unrestricted, and government entities and businesses will continue providing essential services. For offices and workplaces that remain open, employees should practice good hygiene and, where feasible, work from home in order to achieve optimum isolation from COVID-19. The more that people reduce their public contact, the sooner COVID-19 will be contained and the sooner this executive order will expire.

This Declaration supersedes all previous declarations and orders on this matter that are in conflict or inconsistent with its terms, and this Declaration shall remain in effect and in full force until 11:59 p.m. on April 3, 2020, subject to being extended, modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded by me.

Given under my hand this the 19th day of March, 2020.



Darrel L. Lux  
Kendall County Judge

**On March 23, 2020, the Kendall County Commissioners Court continued the Declaration of Local Disaster and included the following penalty: Any violation of any Emergency Order issued under this DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY may result in a fine, not to exceed, \$1,000 or confinement in a jail for a term, not to exceed, 180 days.**