



DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER FOR COMAL COUNTY, TEXAS

WHEREAS, beginning in December, 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, has spread to the extent it has now been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough and shortness of breath, and outcomes have ranged from mild to severe illness and in some cases death; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General declared the outbreak of COVID-19 as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern and advised countries to prepare for the containment, including active surveillance, early detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing, and prevention of onward spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020, the World Health Organization Director General urged aggressive preparedness and activation of emergency plans to aggressively change the trajectory of this epidemic; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a National State of Emergency under the Stafford Act to combat the growing COVID-19 pandemic in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott declared a State of Disaster for all 254 Counties in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is closely monitoring the growing number of COVID-19 cases that have spread into the United States; and

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued guidance and a statement that large events and gatherings such as conferences, festivals, parades, concerts, sporting events, weddings, and other types of assemblies can contribute to the spread of COVID-19 in the United States via travelers who attend such events and introduce the virus to new communities; and

WHEREAS, a declaration of local disaster includes the ability to take measures to reduce the possibility of exposure to disease and mitigate the risk to, and promote the health and safety of, the residents of Comal County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, the County Judge is designated as the Emergency Management Director of Comal County, and may exercise the powers granted to the governor on an appropriate local scale.

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

Section 1. **Declaration of Local State of Disaster.** A local state of disaster due to this health emergency is hereby declared by the County Judge of Comal County, pursuant to Section 418.108 of the Texas Disaster Act.

Section 2. **Duration of Local State of Disaster.** Pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Disaster Act, the local state of disaster due to this health emergency issued in this Declaration shall continue until revoked, but in no event will it exceed a period longer than seven (7) days of the date hereof, unless continued or renewed by the consent of the Commissioners Court of Comal County.

Section 3. **Publicity and Filing.** Pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas Disaster Act, this declaration of a local state of disaster due to this health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.

Section 4. **Activation of the County Emergency Management Plan.** Pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Disaster Act, this declaration of a local state of disaster due to this health emergency activates the Comal County Emergency Management Plan.

Section 5. **Authority to Promote Health and Safety.** Pursuant to Section 122.006 of the Health and Safety Code, this declaration authorizes the County to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress disease, including quarantine, and examining and regulating hospitals, regulating ingress and egress throughout the County and any impacted areas.

Section 6. **Other Authority.** As the County Judge and presiding officer of Comal County, I further reserve all other authority and powers conferred by state law to respond as necessary to the situation which is the subject of this Declaration.

Section 7. **Effective Date.** This Declaration shall take effect immediately upon its issuance by the County Judge of Comal County, Texas.

ORDERED this the 18th day of March, 2020, in the County of Comal, Texas, in witness whereof I hereunto subscribe my name.



Sherman Krause,
County Judge, Comal County, Texas

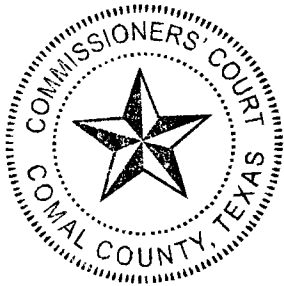
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BOBBIE KOEPP
COMAL COUNTY CLERK

ATTEST:

Bobbie Koepf
By: *Romello Walker, Deputy*
Bobbie Koepf, Comal County Clerk



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Bobbie Koepf, County Clerk
Comal County, Texas
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Bobbie Koepf