

**IMPLEMENTATION OF CONTROL MEASURES  
RELATED TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS**

**WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2020 Dr. John Hellerstedt, Commissioner of the Department of State Health Services (“Commissioner”) Issued a Public Health Disaster Declaration in the State of Texas for the purpose of reducing and delaying the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, under Texas Health and Safety Code §81.082, the Public Health Authority has the authority and control over disease control measures within its jurisdiction; and

**WHEREAS**, under Texas Health and Safety Code §81.082(c) those measures can imposed on a place; and

**WHEREAS**, under Texas Health and Safety Code §81.082(f) those measures can include prevention; and

**WHEREAS**, under Texas Health and Safety Code §81.084(k) the health authority may impose control measures he considers necessary and most appropriate to arrest, control, and eradicate the threat to the public health; and

**WHEREAS**, under Texas Health and Safety Code §122.006 the City may adopt rules to protect the health of persons, and additionally under §121.024, it is the duty of the health authority to aid in the enforcement of such rules; and

**WHEREAS**, in the March 19, 2020 declaration the Commissioner required each person to act responsibly to prevent and control COVID-19 pursuant to Texas Health and Safety Code §82.002.

**WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2020 Greg Abbott, Governor of the State of Texas issued the following four executive orders:

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; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 1, 2020, the City Council extended the emergency declaration through April 30, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 17, 2020 and April 27, 2020 the Governor of the State of Texas executed orders that began the slow process of reopening businesses in Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 30, 2020 the City Council extended the emergency declaration and adopted the executive orders of the Governor as orders of the City.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Dr. James Vretis, Tom Green County Public Health Authority, pursuant to Texas Health and Safety Code §81.082 and §81.084(k), hereby issue the following control measure order:

1. All hotels, motels, RV and camping facilities and similar establishments providing accommodations, overnight lodging, meals, and other services for guests shall immediately prohibit congregation of guests within all common areas of those establishments.
2. Common areas shall include, but not be limited to, lobbies, pool areas, dining areas, conference rooms, walkways, etc.

**A FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS ORDER SHALL SUBJECT EACH PERSON IN VIOLATION TO COURT ACTION AND WILL CONSTITUTE A CLASS B MISDEMEANOR PURSUANT TO §81.087 OF THE TEXAS HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE. SUCH COURT ACTION MAY INCLUDE APPLICATION FOR A COURT ORDER TO AUTHORIZE LAW ENFORCEMENT TO USE REASONABLE FORCE TO SECURE THE PROPERTY, AND TO PREVENT INDIVIDUALS FROM ENTERING THE PROPERTY. SEE §81.084(L).**

This Order is issued under my authority as Public Health Authority for Tom Green County, Texas on this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2020.

DocuSigned by:  


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James G. Vretis, D.O., Public Health Authority