

**PALO PINTO COUNTY
DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER DUE TO
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

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

WHEREAS, Governor Greg Abbott today announced a series of Executive Orders relating to COVID-19 preparedness and mitigation. The orders serve to limit public gatherings and help reduce exposure for people across the state. These orders are in accordance with federal guidelines issued by the President and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and will aid in the state's efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Government Code Chapter 418 Gives the county judge the power to declare a local disaster within the county if "the threat of disaster is imminent;" and

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 can range from mild to severe illness and cause further complications including death; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus mainly spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes; and

WHEREAS, the continued spread of COVID-19 presents an imminent threat of widespread illness, which requires action for the protection of the people of Palo Pinto County; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of mitigation strategies can slow the transmission of the disease; and

WHEREAS, this Declaration activates the County's emergency management plan; and

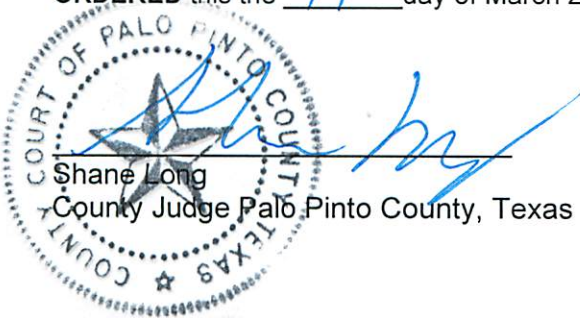
WHEREAS, the County Judge of Palo Pinto County has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to mitigate the effects of this public health emergency and to facilitate the efficient, rapid, and cooperative response to the emergency;

THEREFORE, Be It Proclaimed by The County Judge of Palo Pinto County that:

1. A local state of disaster is hereby declared for Palo Pinto County, pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
2. The state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the Palo Pinto County Commissioners Court, pursuant to §418.018(b) of the Government Code.
3. This 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 §418.018(b) of the Government Code.
4. This declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Palo Pinto County Emergency Plan, pursuant to §418.018(b) of the Government Code.

Effective Date. This Proclamation shall take effect at 11:59 pm on March 20, 2020 as issued by The County Judge of Palo Pinto County, Texas.

ORDERED this the 19 day of March 2020, at 7:00 ~~a.m.~~ p.m.



FILED
At 7:00 O'Clock P M.

MAR 19 2020


Clerk of the County Court
Palo Pinto County, Texas
By _____ Deputy

FILED
At _____ O'Clock _____ M.

By _____ Deputy
Clerk of the County Court
Palo Pinto County, Texas

