

**CHAMBERS COUNTY
EXECUTIVE ORDER – AMENDMENT 3
April 6, 2020**

**AMENDMENT 3 TO
EXECUTIVE ORDER OF CHAMBERS COUNTY JUDGE
STAY SAFE ORDER / EMERGENCY MEASURES**

Whereas, on March 12, 2020, Chambers County Judge Jimmy Sylvia issued a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency to allow Chambers County to take protective measures to reduce the possibility of exposure to COVID-19 and promote the health and safety of Chambers County residents in accordance with Section 418.108 of the Texas Government Code; and

Whereas, on March 13, 2020, a Declaration of State of Disaster was issued by Governor Abbott to take additional steps to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect the health and welfare of Texans; and

Whereas, on March 16, 2020, President Trump acknowledged the gravity of the COVID-19 pandemic, releasing strict new guidelines to limit people's interactions; and

Whereas, on March 17, 2020, the Chambers County Commissioners Court issued an Order at a Special Meeting of Commissioners Court approving the extension of the Declaration of Local Disaster declared by County Judge Jimmy Sylvia and signed on March 12, 2020; and

Whereas, on March 23, 2020, Chambers County Judge Jimmy Sylvia issued an Executive Order enacting Emergency Measures in Chambers County; and

Whereas, on March 24, 2020, Chambers County Judge Jimmy Sylvia issued an Executive Order enacting Emergency Measures in Chambers County, to expire at 11:59 p.m. on April 30, 2020 pursuant to Amendment 2 to the Executive Order; and

Whereas, on March 26, 2020, Chambers County Judge Jimmy Sylvia issued Amendment 1 to the Executive Order enacted on March 24, 2020; and

Whereas, on March 30, 2020, Chambers County Judge Jimmy Sylvia issued Amendment 2 to the Executive Order enacted on March 24, 2020; and

Whereas, on March 31, 2020, Governor Abbot issued Executive Order No. GA-14 relating to statewide continuity of essential services and activities during the COVID-19 disaster, which order was to be in effect and in full force until April 30, 2020; and

Whereas, the COVID-19 virus is contagious and spreads through person-to-person contact, especially in group settings, and gatherings of any kind during this time create a substantial threat to public health and safety; and

Whereas, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") recommends an "All of Community" approach focused on slowing the transmission of COVID-19 through social distancing to reduce illness and death, while minimizing social and economic impacts; and

Whereas, given the ongoing evaluation of circumstances related to the COVID-19 virus, the updated recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control and the Texas Department of State Health Services, and the substantial risks posed by the COVID-19 virus to Chambers County residents and their property, the following extraordinary measures must be taken to protect the public's safety; and

Whereas, this Amended Order is intended to ensure that the County Judge's Stay Safe/Emergency Measures Order and the Governor's Executive Order No. GA-14 relating to COVID-19 are read in conformity with one another regarding continuity of essential services;

NOW THEREFORE, I, COUNTY JUDGE FOR CHAMBERS COUNTY, TEXAS, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED BY TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 418, HEREBY FIND AND ORDER AMENDMENT 3 TO THE EXECUTIVE ORDER ISSUED MARCH 24, 2020:

1. **Section 2.a.vi. is hereby added to read as follows:** Faith leaders who provide religious and worship services by video and teleconference enable Chambers County to greatly limit the spread of COVID-19 and the exponential growth of cases. Faith leaders may minister and counsel in individual settings, so long as social distancing protocols are followed. Per the Texas Attorney General's guidance on this topic, if religious services cannot be conducted from home or through remote services, then religious services may be conducted in churches, congregations, and houses of worship. Such services should be conducted consistent with the Guidelines from the President and the CDC by practicing good hygiene, environmental cleanliness, sanitation, limiting gatherings to no more than 10 persons, and implementing social distancing. Faith leaders should consult the Texas Attorney General's guidance on this topic here:
<https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/sites/default/files/images/admin/2020/Press/AG%20Guidance%20for%20Houses%20of%20Worship%20During%20the%20COVID-19%20Crisis.pdf>
2. **Section 2.b.i. is revised to read as follows: Essential Critical Infrastructure.** Work necessary to the operations and maintenance of the 16 critical infrastructure sectors identified by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security National Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Version 2.0, as well as Texas Division of Emergency Management's (TDEM) online list of additional essential services as they are

approved by TDEM (www.tdem.texas.gov/essentialservices), provided that they carry out those services or that work in compliance with social distancing requirements of six feet to the extent possible. See Attachment (CISA's Guidance on Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce, Version 2.0). Essential Businesses providing essential infrastructure should implement screening precautions to protect employees and all activities shall be performed in compliance with social distancing guidelines.

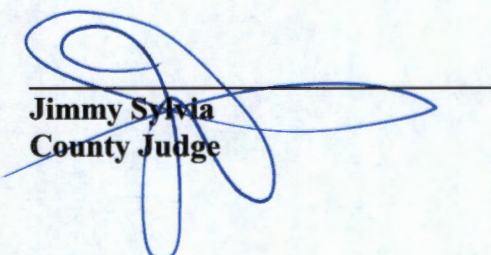
3. **Section 2.b.iv. is revised to read as follows: Essential Retail.** Businesses that provide and support for food and agriculture as well as businesses that supply products needed for people to work from home, in conformity with CISA Guidance, Version 2.0. Food producers and service providers, including grocery stores, warehouse stores, furniture suppliers, big box stores, bodegas, liquor stores, gas stations and convenience stores, farmers' markets that sell food products and household staples. Food cultivation, including farming, ranching, fishing, and livestock. Food production, including the production of canned goods, bottled beverages and other grocery items. Businesses that ship or deliver groceries, food, goods or services directly to residences. Restaurants and other facilities that prepare and serve food, but only for delivery, drive-thru or carry-out. Schools and other entities that typically provide free services to students or members of the public on a pick-up and take-away basis only. The restriction of delivery or carry-out does not apply to cafes and restaurants located within hospital and medical facilities. Laundromats, dry cleaners, and laundry service providers. Gas stations, auto supply, auto and bicycle repair, hardware stores, and related facilities.
4. **Section 2.b.ix. is revised to read as follows: Transportation.** Businesses related to the operation, maintenance, construction, and manufacture of transportation services. For example, (a) vehicle manufacturers, automotive suppliers and parts departments, car dealerships in order to provide support of personal and commercial transportation services, parts distributors, maintenance and repair facilities; (b) public transportation; (c) businesses supporting airport operations; (d) street and highway maintenance and construction; (e) gas stations and other fuel distribution businesses; (f) vehicles for hire, including public transportation services, Uber, Lyft, and taxicabs, that enable persons to travel to or from employers, service providers, or businesses exempted in this Order. People riding public transit must comply with the six-foot social distancing requirements to the greatest extent feasible.
5. **Section 6 is revised to read as follows:**
 - (a) **Infectious Disease Control Orders.** Pursuant to Texas Health and Safety Code Ch. 81, a property may be placed under infectious disease control measures, if the Local Health Authority has reasonable cause to believe that the described property is or may be infected or contaminated with a communicable disease, including Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). The Local Health Authority may implement measures necessary and appropriate to arrest, control, and eradicate the threat to the public health from COVID-19. Measures may include the issuance of a written order quarantining the property,

imposing additional control measures to disinfect or decontaminate the property, securing the property, or such other measures as may be required or permitted by law. These measures may be taken by the Local Health Authority regardless of designation as an "Essential Activity" or "Essential Business".

(b) If someone in a household has tested positive for coronavirus, the household is ordered to isolate at home until cleared by a public health authority or medical provider.

6. Pursuant to Annex U, Section V.A.6. of the Chambers County Emergency Operations Plan, and in accordance with Tex. Gov't Code § 418.173, any law enforcement agency based in Chambers County is hereby authorized to enforce this order and the failure to comply with this order is an offense punishable by a fine that does not exceed \$1,000.00 or confinement in jail for a term that does not exceed 180 days.
7. Chambers County will post this Order on its website. In addition, the owner, manager, or operator of any facility that is likely to be impacted by this Order is strongly encouraged to post a copy of this Order onsite and to provide a copy to any member of the public asking for a copy. If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Order or any application of it to any person, structure, gathering, or circumstance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of this Order.
8. All other terms of the March 24, 2020 Executive Order, Amendment 1, Amendment 2, and the March 23, 2020 Executive Order relating to CURFEW (except that a gathering of any amount of people occurring outside a single household or living unit is prohibited except as otherwise provided herein) shall remain in full force and effect.

This Amended Order shall take effect IMMEDIATELY upon its issuance, ORDERED THIS 6th DAY OF April 2020, and shall continue until 11:59 p.m. on April 30, 2020 or until it is either rescinded, superseded, or amended according to applicable law.



Jimmy Sylva
County Judge



Attest: Heather Hawthorne
County Clerk

