

## **DANNY PIERCE**

County Judge, Walker County 1100 University Avenue, Room 204 Huntsville, TX 77340 dpierce@co.walker.tx.us (936) 436-4911

## AMENDED ORDER AFFECTING THE OCCUPANCY OF PREMISES THROUGHOUT WALKER COUNTY

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Walker County Judge Danny Pierce signed an order affecting the occupancy of premises throughout Walker County; and

WHEREAS, said Order went into effect at 4:56 pm on March 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, a local disaster declaration was declared on March 12, 2020, ratified and extended for seven (7) days by a duly called meeting of the Commissioners' Court on the same day, and

WHEREAS, similar State of Texas and Federal Disaster Declarations were issued on March 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus is contagious and spreads through person-to-person contact, especially in group settings; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, has issued guidance to all Americans, requesting gatherings of ten (10) persons or more to cease; and

WHEREAS, an emerging public health emergency does currently exist and is expected to worsen, and

WHEREAS, Walker County desires to take all reasonable measures slow down and prevent the spread of COVID-19 throughout Walker County; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, COUNTY JUDGE OF WALKER COUNTY, TEXAS, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED BY TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 418, HEREBY AMEND AND ORDER:

Effective as of 12:00 pm on Wednesday, March 18, 2020, and continuing while Walker County is under a declaration of disaster, unless terminated or modified by an order, the County Judge of Walker County, Texas, deems it in the public's interest to issue the following order(s):

- 1. Any event sponsored by a political subdivision in Walker County shall cease.
- 2. Any events with greater than ten (10) persons held at government facilities in Walker County shall cease.
- 3. Any event with greater than fifty (50) persons to be held at a private facility shall cancel or postpone.
- 4. Any event with greater than ten (10) persons to be held at a private facility is urged to cancel or postpone.
- Events of ten (10) persons or more that would include any population at severe risk of severe illness should cease. The population at the greatest risk is anyone over the age of 65 and/or those with severe medical conditions as defined by CDC guidelines.
- Nursing homes, senior centers, and senior living centers shall limit visitation of the public within their facilities.
- 7. Local school districts should consider remaining closed until at least April 6, 2020.
- 8. Childcare facilities should consider the following guidelines:
  - a. Do not allow visitors into facilities.

- b. Parents should deliver children to the door but do not enter facility.
- c. Childcare facilities should enact checking temperatures when children enter facility
- d. Wash hands frequently.
- e. Childcare facilities should release children to their parents at the facility doors without allowing parents into the facility.
- 9. Restaurants, bars, theaters, retail stores, other private businesses, clubs or civic organizations, and religious organizations, to include churches, synagogues, mosques or other places of worship, are urged to comply with the CDC guidelines and use all reasonable precautions to protect customers and staff, including increasing the space between individuals.
- 10. Retail stores which sell groceries, medical supplies, or medications are exempt, but should take reasonable measures to ensure the safety and health of customers and staff.

This order does not extend to law enforcement activities, emergency responses, court operations, to include jury operations where necessary, or official functions of political subdivisions in Walker County.

All Walker County employees must report for work as required by their supervisors.

This order shall take effect as of 12:00 pm Wednesday, March 18, 2020 and continues while Walker County is under a declaration of disaster, unless rescinded, extended or amended.

Signed this 18th day of March, 2020

Danny Pierce County Judge Walker County

Attest: Kari A. French County Clerk Walker County

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Clerk
ounty

FILED FOR RECORD At 12:00 o'clock P M

MAR 18 2020

KARI FRENCH, COUNTY CLERK
WALKER COUNTY, TEXAS
By DEPUTY Deputy