



DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY FOR BOWIE COUNTY, TEXAS

WHEREAS the World Health Organization has declared the coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, as a global pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 was first detected in in Wuhan, China in December 2019; and

WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, coughing and shortness of breath, and can range from mild to severe illness, which may lead to 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 worldwide spread of COVID-19 presents an imminent threat of widespread illness, which requires emergency action for the protection of the people of Bowie County; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the County Judge of Bowie 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 Bowie County that:

1. A local state of disaster is hereby declared for Bowie 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 Bowie County Commissioners Court, pursuant to §418.018(b) of the Government Code.

3. This declaration of a local state of disaster for public health emergency shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the Bowie County Clerk, pursuant to §418.018(b) of the Government Code.
4. This declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Bowie County Emergency Plan, pursuant to §418.018(b) of the Government Code.
5. This Declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

ORDERED this the 8th day of March 2020, at 2:15 p.m.



BOBBY L. HOWELL
BOWIE COUNTY JUDGE