



Office of Henderson County Judge
Wade McKinney
125 N. Prairieville Street Room 100
Athens, TX 75751

March 19, 2020

Press Release

Henderson County Judge Wade McKinney signed a Declaration of Disaster for Henderson County, Texas at 12:00 PM on March 19, 2020. The declaration was made as a precautionary measure at the urging of Governor Abbott.

As of March 19, 2020 at 12:00 pm, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Henderson County, Texas. The health and safety of the citizens of Henderson County, Texas is our number one priority. During this time we encourage everyone to follow CDC Guidelines that have been in place for several weeks.

Sincerely,

Judge Wade McKinney
Henderson County Judge



Office of Henderson County Judge
Wade McKinney
125 N. Prairieville Street Room 100
Athens, TX 75751

March 19, 2020

The Honorable
Gregg Abbott, Governor of Texas
C/O Chief
Texas Division of Emergency Management
P O Box 12428
Austin, Texas 78773-0001

Dear Governor Abbott,

The County of Henderson, Texas is facing significant threats to life, health and property due to: COVID-19 Virus.

The potential impact of this threat is: **SIGNIFICANT HEALTH RISK AND ECONOMIC LOSSES.**

I have determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that an effective response is beyond the capability of the local jurisdiction to control. Pursuant to §433.001 of the Texas Government Code, I am requesting that you declare a state of emergency for the County of Henderson and issues appropriate directives to deal with the emergency; including: **LOCAL SUPPORT WITH STATE RESOURCES AS NEEDED.**

Furthermore, I am asking that successive proclamations be issued and remain in effect until the threat of loss of life, injury, or damage property is contained.

A timely response to this request would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Judge Wade McKinney
Henderson County Judge



HENDERSON COUNTY
DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER
DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

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 Wuhan, China in December 2019; 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 worldwide spread of COVID-19 presents an imminent threat of widespread illness, which requires emergency action for the protection of the people of Henderson County; and

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

WHEREAS, the Small Business Association (SBA) has designated COVID-19 as a qualifying event for the provision of Economic Injury Disaster Loans for businesses and private non-profits in affected communities.

WHEREAS, this Declaration activates the County's Emergency Management plan; and

WHEREAS, the County Judge of Henderson 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 Henderson County that;

1. A local state of disaster is hereby declared for Henderson County, pursuant to of disaster is hereby declared for Henderson 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 Henderson County Commissioners Court, pursuant to §418.108(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 Henderson 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 19th day of March 2020,


Wade McKinney, County Judge