



FILED
AT 6:38 O'CLOCK PM

MAR 17 2020

ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR. COUNTY CLERK
HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS
BY Valerie G. [Signature] DEPUTY

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, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath, and can range from mild to severe illness; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the Governor Greg Abbot declared a state of disaster for all counties in Texas; and

WHEREAS, the State of Texas has already taken numerous steps to prepare for COVID-19, including coordinating preparedness efforts across state agencies, and working with local partners to promote appropriate mitigation efforts; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 virus 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 emergency measures be taken; and

WHEREAS, Texas Government Code Chapter 418, Section 418.108 authorizes the County Judge of a county to declare a local state of disaster, and exercise the powers granted therein on an appropriate local scale; and

WHEREAS, a declaration local state of disaster shall activate all applicable local or interjurisdictional emergency management plans and authorizes the furnishing of aid and assistance under the declaration. The appropriate preparedness and response aspects of the plans are activated as provided in the plans and take effect immediately after the local state of disaster is declared; and

WHEREAS, a declaration of local state of disaster and public health emergency permits the ability to take measures to reduce the possibility of exposure to disease, prevent the spread of and control the risk of disease, in order to promote the public health, safety and welfare of residents of the County of Hidalgo; and

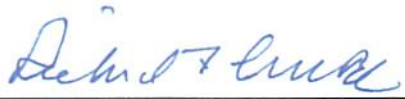
WHEREAS, the Judge of the County of Hidalgo has determined that extraordinary and immediate measures must be taken to respond quickly, prevent and alleviate the

suffering of people exposed to and those infected with the virus, as well as those that could potentially be infected or impacted by COVID-19 throughout Hidalgo County and within the remaining twenty two (22) municipal jurisdictions in Hidalgo County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE JUDGE OF THE COUNTY OF HIDALGO:

1. That a Local State of Disaster and Public Health Emergency is hereby declared for the County of Hidalgo, Texas pursuant to Chapter 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code; and
2. That the County's Emergency Management Plan has been activated; and
3. That this Local State of Disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date hereof, unless continued or extended by consent of the Commissioners Court of the County of Hidalgo, Texas; and
4. Pursuant to the authority granted under the laws of the State of Texas, this declaration authorizes the County of Hidalgo to take actions necessary to protect the health and safety of persons in the County, including but not limited to the control of ingress to and egress from a disaster area under the jurisdiction and authority of the County Judge and control the movement of persons and the occupancy of premises in that area.
5. That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

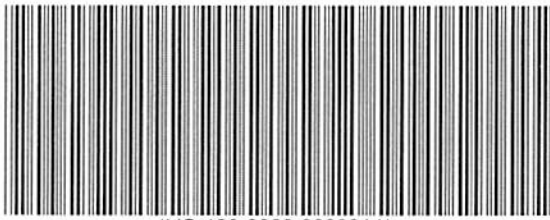
ORDERED this the 17th day of March, 2020.


Richard F. Cortez, Hidalgo County Judge

ATTEST:



Arturo Guajardo, Jr., County Clerk



VG-120-2020-3099014

Hidalgo County
Arturo Guajardo Jr.
County Clerk
Edinburg, Texas 78540

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Richard F. Cortez
100 E Cano Street
EDINBURG TX 78539



STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF HIDALGO

I hereby certify that this Instrument was FILED in the File Number sequence on the date/time printed hereon, and was duly RECORDED in the Official Records of Hidalgo County, Texas.

Arturo Guajardo Jr.
County Clerk
Hidalgo County, Texas