

DECLARATION OF DISASTER AND PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, in December 2019 a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, and on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) Director General declared the outbreak of COVID-19 as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC); and

WHEREAS, the identification of "community spread" cases of COVID-19 in the United States has occurred and WHO has declared the coronavirus a pandemic and urged aggressive action from all countries to fight it; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has proclaimed the COVID-19 outbreak to be a national emergency, Governor Greg Abbott has declared a state of disaster for Texas, and Collin County Judge Chris Hill has issued a disaster declaration for Collin County, Texas; and

WHEREAS, by this Declaration of Disaster and Public Health Emergency, I declare all rules and regulations that may inhibit prompt response to this threat suspended for the duration of the incident; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted to the Mayor under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, I authorize the use of all available resources of state government and political subdivisions to assist in the City's response; and

WHEREAS, I, John-Mark Caldwell, the Mayor of the City of Princeton, Texas, have 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 COVID-19 and the risks to the public;

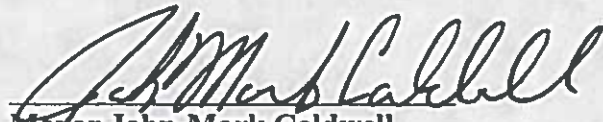
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT DECLARED BY THE CITY OF PRINCETON, TEXAS:

1. In accordance with Chapter 418 of the Texas Government Code, a local state of disaster and public health emergency is hereby declared for the City of Princeton ("Declaration"). The state of disaster and public health emergency shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the City Council.
2. This Declaration shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the City Clerk, and activates the City of Princeton's emergency management plan which authorizes the City to commandeer or use any private property, temporarily acquire, by lease or other means, sites required for temporary housing units or emergency shelters for evacuees, subject to compensation requirements.
3. This Declaration authorizes the City to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress disease, including quarantine, examining and regulating hospitals, regulating ingress and egress from the City, and fining those who do not comply with the City's rules.
4. Pursuant to the statutory authority cited above, I, Mayor John-Mark Caldwell, declare that ingress into and travel through the City of Princeton from any persons that have been quarantined in a facility for treatment of COVID-19 is not permitted without the written permission of the mayor. No previously quarantined person shall be permitted to enter the City of Princeton until further notice.

5. Consistent with guidance from Collin County and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, this declaration hereby limits the size of gatherings to not more than 10 people, and mandates the cancelation of such gatherings until further notice. A “gathering” refers generally to a scheduled event or common endeavor where 10 persons are present in a confined space or area.

6. This Declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

DECLARED AND ORDERED this 17th day of March 2020.



Mayor John-Mark Caldwell
City of Princeton, Texas

