



FILED
AT 3:35 O'CLOCK P.M.

AUG 02 2021

ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR. COUNTY CLERK
HIDALGO COUNTY, TEXAS
BY _____ DEPUTY

DECLARING A LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER

WHEREAS, the United States Federal Government declared a national emergency on March 13, 2020 due to the COVID-19 public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, the State of Texas declared a State of Disaster in Texas on March 13, 2020 due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Customs and Border Protection is releasing an alarmingly substantial number of immigrants into the City of McAllen, Texas, which is within the jurisdictional boundaries of the County of Hidalgo, Texas, including individuals that are positive for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, local Non-Governmental Organizations, and the City of McAllen are overwhelmed with the unanticipated influx of individuals and can no longer adequately feed, house, provide medical attention or otherwise accommodate the individuals being released into the County of Hidalgo, Texas; and

WHEREAS, due to recent increases in number of released immigrants and the potential for even greater numbers to come, immigrants being released into the County of Hidalgo may face inadequate access to medical care, shelter and other humanitarian necessities including food and water; and

WHEREAS, immigration is under the purview of the federal government and is not under state, county or municipal jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, Hidalgo County is seeing an increase in the total number of positive COVID-19 cases and a hospitalization rate in excess of 18%; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to take additional steps to prepare for, respond to and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect the public health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to provide for the humanitarian needs of the immigrants released into the City of McAllen, Texas, and the County of Hidalgo, Texas, including individuals that are positive for COVID-19,

WHEREAS, the Judge of the County of Hidalgo has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to protect the public health, safety and general wellbeing of the population of Hidalgo County, in order to alleviate the suffering of people and to protect or rehabilitate property; and

WHEREAS, Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code provides that the presiding officer of the governing body of a political subdivision may declare a state of local disaster;

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

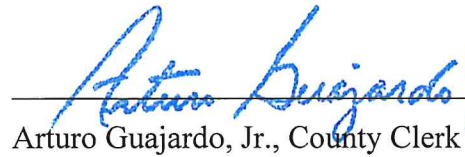
1. That a state of disaster is declared for the County of Hidalgo, Texas;
2. that the County's Emergency Management Plan has been activated;
3. that this State of Disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date hereof, unless the same is continued by consent of the Commissioners Court of the County of Hidalgo, Texas; and
4. that this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

ORDERED this the 2nd day of August, 2021.



Richard F. Cortez, Hidalgo County Judge

ATTEST:


Arturo Guajardo, Jr., County Clerk

