POLK COUNTY, TEXAS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 25, 2020

Time: 5:00 p.m.

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Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Update

Today, Polk County Judge Sydney Murphy issued an Executive Order (Order to Stay Home) out of an abundance of caution to protect the health and safety of Polk County residents during the COVID-19 Pandemic. This Order requires individuals to remain at home or at a place of residence, with exceptions for essential work and activities. Please see the attached Order for details.

In accordance with Government Code Section 418.108(h), after a declaration of local disaster by the County Judge, the jurisdiction and authority of the County Judge includes the incorporated and unincorporated areas of the County. Under Government Code 418.173, violations of the declaration of disaster and orders may be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 or imprisonment in the jail not to exceed 180 days.

For COVID-19 case counts in Texas:

https://txdshs.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/ed483ecd702b4298ab01e8b9cafc8b83

For COVID-19 case counts in Polk County: https://www.acchd.us/health-concerns/covid-19/

For more information on COVID-19, visit <u>www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus</u> or visit the CDC's Frequently Asked Questions page at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html to learn more about COVID-19.

Please look for further updates on the Polk County Emergency Management Facebook page (www.facebook.com/PolkCountyEmergencyManagement) or on our website at www.PolkCountyOEM.com.