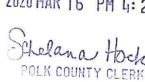
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## DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY In Polk County, Texas

WHEREAS, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated as COVID-19, was detected in mainland China, and has since spread throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a worldwide pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, President Donald Trump has proclaimed the COVID-19 outbreak a national emergency in the United States; and Governor Greg Abbott has declared a state of disaster for all counties in Texas; and

WHEREAS, costs incurred to prepare for and respond to COVID-19 are beginning to mount at the county level; and

WHEREAS, Polk County has already taken significant measures to prepare for and prevent the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, some schools, universities and other governmental entities are beginning to alter their schedules, and some venues are beginning to temporarily close, as precautionary responses to the increasing presence of COVID-19 in Texas; and

WHEREAS, extraordinary measures must be taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout Polk County, Texas;

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

- 1. That a local state of disaster is hereby declared for Polk County, Texas pursuant to section §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
- Pursuant to §418.018(b) of the Texas Government Code, 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 Commissioners Court of Polk County.
- Pursuant to §418.018(c) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.

- 4. Pursuant to §418.018(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the county emergency management plan.
- 5. That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

ORDERED this the 16th day of March, 2020.

Sydney Murphy, County Judge

Polk County, Texas

ATTEST:

Schelana Hock, County Clerk

Polk County, Texas

Filed this day of March, 2020 at

Schelana Hock, County Clerk

By Schelana Hozh

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POLK COUNTY CLERK