**OCTOBER 23, 2020**

## JOINT WILLACY COUNTY JUDGE AND WILLACY COUNTY HEALTH AUTHORITY EMERGENCY HEALTH CONTROL ORDER REGARDING ALL SCHOOL-SPONSORED EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT WILLACY COUNTY

WHEREAS, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.108, Willacy County Judge Aurelio Guerra issued a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency on March 19, 2020, due to the imminent threat arising from the Coronavirus (COVID-19), which thereafter on March 23, 2020, in accordance with Texas Government Code Section 418.108(b), the Commissioners Court of Willacy County issued an Order of Continuance of Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency that affirmed the activation of the Willacy County Emergency Management Plan and extended the Declaration of Local Disaster;

WHEREAS, the Willacy County Judge, Willacy County Health Authority, and Willacy County Emergency Management Coordinator have consulted with the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), and on the advice of the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 121 of the Texas Health and Safety Code, Dr. Mario Sanchez as the Willacy County Local Health Authority and pursuant to his duties, has the authority to administer state and local laws relating to public health within the jurisdiction of the County of Willacy, Texas; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority of Section 81.082(a) of the of the Texas Health and Safety Code, and Title 25, Section 97.6(h) of the Texas Administrative Code, unless specifically preempted by the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), the Local Health Authority has supervisory authority and control over the administration of communicable disease control measures within its jurisdiction, to include public school systems, when in his opinion control measures are necessary to protect the public health; and

WHEREAS, the ongoing evaluation of circumstances regarding the Public Health Emergency related to COVID-19, now demonstrates a substantial and uncontrolled spread of the disease in the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, **EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY** unless or until modified, rescinded, or superseded, the Willacy County Judge and the Willacy County Health Authority hereby impose the

following control measures:

1. All school-sponsored events and activities, including but not limited to clubs, sports, fairs, exhibitions, and academic or athletic competitions, SHALL be allowed to take place **WITH NO SPECTATORS** until further notice.

2. Only persons who are necessary to conduct, officiate, participate, or otherwise necessary for the event or activity to proceed will be allowed on the premises. School personnel and emergency personnel will be allowed, if necessary.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect, and may be modified, extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended by applicable law depending on the ongoing evaluation of circumstances regarding the Public Health Emergency related to COVID-19 cases in the County of Willacy, Texas; or preempted by the Texas Department of State Health Services.
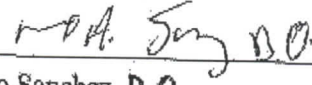
If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Order, or any application of it to any school system, or circumstance related to this Order is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of this Order.

To the greatest extent possible, this Order shall be interpreted as consistent with and supplemental to any executive order issued by the Texas Governor. All provisions of the executive orders of the Texas Governor either existing or as, if and when issued, which are made applicable to all jurisdictions by law shall be automatically incorporated into and constitute terms of this Order, enforceable as if set forth herein without necessity for the issuance of any further orders.

ORDERED and EFFECTIVE this 23rd day of October 2020.

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Aurelio Guerra
Willacy County Judge

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Mario Sanchez, D. O.
Willacy County Health Authority