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For Immediate Release

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Governmental Affairs

**Declaration of Local State of Disaster for San Patricio County, Texas
Due to Novel Coronavirus**

Today at 10:30 a.m. San Patricio County Judge David R. Krebs signed a Declaration of Local State of Disaster due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) which, on March 11, 2020, was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization. Although there are currently no known cases of the COVID-19 in San Patricio County, the Texas Department of State Health Services is reporting 56 confirmed cases located in 17 different counties in Texas as of March 15, 2020. Further Judge Krebs has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in order to more fully protect the health and welfare of the citizens of San Patricio County.

This follows Governor Abbott's Declaration of State of Disaster on March 13, 2020 wherein he certified that COVID-19 posed an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in Texas in accordance with the authority vested in him in Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code. Notably some schools, universities, and other neighboring 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.

This proclaimed local state of disaster shall continue for a consecutive period, pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code. All San Patricio County officials and employees are authorized to do any and all things necessary or convenient to accomplish the purpose of this Order.

For information, please contact Sara Williams, Emergency Management Coordinator, at 361-587-3561 or Desiree L. Voth, Government and Legal Affairs, at (361) 364-6148.

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