



Governor Abbott issues Executive Order GA-28 and Harris County Announces New “Stay Home Work Safe” Advisory

Executive Order GA-28

Today, Texas Governor Greg Abbott issued [Executive Order GA 28](#) increasing restrictions on certain businesses in an effort to stop the spread of COVID-19. The order includes the following:

- Every business establishment in Texas shall operate at no more than 50 percent of the total listed occupancy of the establishment; provided, however, that:
 - There is no occupancy limit for: (a) any services listed by the [U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency \(CISA\) in its Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce](#) (Version 3.1 or any subsequent version); (b) religious services, including those conducted in churches, congregations and houses of worship; (c) local government operations; (d) child-care services; (e) youth camps; (f) recreational sports programs for youths and adults.
 - The 50% occupancy limitation does not apply to outdoor areas, events, or establishments, except that the following outdoor area or outdoor venues cannot operate at more than 50% occupancy: (a) professional, collegiate, or similar sporting events; (b) swimming pools; (c) water parks; (d) museums and libraries; (e) aquariums, natural caverns, and similar facilities.
 - The 50% occupancy limit does not apply to certain establishments that operate with at least 6 feet of social distancing between work stations: (a) cosmetology salons, hair salons, barber shops, nail salons/shops, and other establishments; (b) massage establishments and other facilities where licensed massage therapists or other persons licensed or otherwise authorized to practice under Chapter 455 of the Texas Occupations Code practice their trade; and (c) other personal-care and beauty services such as tanning salons, tattoo studios, piercing studios, hair removal services, and hair loss treatment and growth services;
- All bars and similar establishments that receive more than 51% of their gross receipts from the sale of alcoholic beverages are required to close at 12:00 PM today. These businesses may remain open for delivery and take-out, including for alcoholic beverages, as authorized by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission.
- Restaurants may remain open for dine-in service, but at a capacity not to exceed 50% of total listed indoor occupancy, beginning Monday, June 29, 2020.

- Rafting and tubing businesses must close.
- Outdoor gatherings of 100 or more people must be approved by local governments, with certain exceptions.

The order comes just one day after Governor Abbott paused his Open Texas plan.

Harris County “Stay Home Work Safe” Advisory

Harris County has moved to red Level 1, “which signifies a severe and uncontrolled level of COVID-19, meaning outbreaks are present and worsening and that testing and contact tracing capacity is strained or exceeded.”

As of Thursday, June 25, 2020, all regular ICU beds in Houston’s Texas Medical Center have reached 100% capacity and all elective surgeries and procedures have been postponed in Harris, Dallas, Travis, and Bexar counties.

County Judge Lina Hidalgo stated that “Harris County is now the hotspot and one of the hardest hit in the world.” In effort to curtail the spread of COVID-19, Judge Hidalgo has issued a new Stay Home Work Safe advisory, effective at noon today.

Harris County residents are asked to:

- Stay home except for essential needs
- Work from home if possible
- Cancel all gatherings with people outside your household
- Avoid non-essential personal travel and unnecessary business travel
- No visits to nursing homes and long-term care facilities.

The text of the Stay Home Work Safe advisory is expected to be released later today.

For more information please contact Mahek Bhojani at 713.751.2327 or via [email](#).