

LLANO COUNTY PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

COVID-19 (New Coronavirus)

**LLANO COUNTY
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
LLANO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

April 6, 2020

Llano, TX- 10:00 AM-

On April 6, 2020 at 8:30 PM Llano County Attorney, Becky Lange and Llano Sheriff Bill Blackburn implemented a Llano County COVID-19 Education and Enforcement Task Force. The Task Force has been created to review calls and respond as needed to instances in which flagrant violations of the *Llano County Stay Home-Stay Safe Order* are reported. The mission of the Task Force is not to penalize citizens or businesses for violations of the order but ultimately to encourage compliance and maintain social distancing standards throughout Llano County until this virus is no longer a threat.

Comprised of law enforcement officers from the Llano County Sheriff's Office, the Llano County Constables and members of the City of Llano, City of Horseshoe Bay and Sunrise Beach police departments and the Investigators/Environmental Enforcement Officers from the Llano County Attorney's Office, the Task Force will coordinate efforts among the agencies in Llano County to provide "consistent" education and, if required, enforcement for violations of the *Llano County Stay Home-Stay Safe Order* which went into effect on April 1, 2020 at 11:59 PM. The order can be found at www.co.llano.tx.us

Llano County is committed to take every measure possible to protect its residents against the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. The *Llano County Stay Home-Stay Safe Order* was issued to provide the citizens, businesses and visitors in Llano County the most current and best available protective measures requested by the President, Center for Disease Control, Governor Abbott and Texas Department of State Health Services.

The Task Force efforts will enable law enforcement agencies in Llano County to work with the public to gain compliance and, if required, take enforcement action against individuals and businesses that disregard the *Stay Home-Stay Safe Order* and endanger the health, safety and lives of our citizens.

The task force should not be notified when simple courtesy and communication can solve a problem between citizens and/or businesses as our priority is protecting everyone's constitutional rights. We encourage residents of Llano County to continue to be disciplined in their activities and to be courteous when reminding others about social distancing and the *Llano County Stay Home-Stay Safe Order*.

Failure to comply with the Order after an initial warning, including additional education regarding the mandates of the Order, is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 or confinement in jail for up to 180 days.

Individuals with complaints or questions pertaining to the **enforcement** of the COVID-19 *Llano County Stay Home-Stay Safe Order* should contact the Llano County Sheriff's Office at 325-247-5767. Complaints relating to Llano County COVID-19 violations will be forwarded to the Task Force for investigation, education and enforcement as indicated.

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