



June 27, 2020

Governor Greg Abbott  
P.O. Box 12428  
Austin, Texas, 78711  
Sent via email.

Dear Governor Abbott,

The Public Health Committee comprised of epidemiologists, infectious disease doctors, hospital executives, physician leaders, and public health leaders met yesterday to discuss actions needed to protect the health of Dallas County residents, our hospital capacity, and the future of our economic well-being. Our ability to control the spread and impact of COVID-19 in our community is critical to our ability to allow our shared constituents to stay safe and thrive.

The following are the recommendations of the Committee:

- Reinstitute "Stay Home, Stay Safe" for 30 days.
- Universal masking/physical distancing that is enforced with fines statewide or at least regionally.
- Limit events/situations where individuals congregate.
- Businesses that can maintain work from home or physical distancing may remain open at 50 percent capacity (such as professional services that allow for an individual to work isolated in an office).
- Reduce indoor gatherings to a ten person limit with mandatory masking and physical distancing.
- Maintain outdoor events to a limit of 100 with mandatory masking and physical distancing.
- Restaurants to be closed except for take-out or outdoor seating only with physical distancing.
- Close bowling alleys, arcades, concerts, movie theatres, gyms (to include yoga and spin studios, etc.), group youth sports, public pools, day camps, and other social venues or activities that do not allow strict physical distancing or masks to be strictly worn (i.e., cigar bars).
- Maintain bar closures.
- Daycare can remain open for essential workers only with CDC masking and safety rules.

I made my peace early on during this crisis to always follow the science and our public health experts. I recommend that you enact these requirements statewide, or at the very least, regionally. If not, please rescind your prior order restricting local control and allow Dallas County to implement the above recommendations in an effort to slow the spread of the rampant and devastating COVID-19 virus. Lives depend on swift action.

Additionally, this surge is causing economic hardship on our shared constituents and I urge you to consider loosening of unemployment rules, extending the moratorium on evictions, and working with local and business leaders to provide economic relief to our residents and businesses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Clay Lewis Jenkins".

Clay Lewis Jenkins  
Dallas County Judge