



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Shelter in place implemented in Mission

Essential activities exempt from order

Mission, TX- Following Hidalgo County's lead, Mission Mayor Dr. Armando O'Caña has issued an executive order for residents to stay at home except to do essential activities to help stop the spread of COVID-19. The order goes into effect at 11:59 p.m. Thursday March 26 and lasts until at least April 10.

Under the order, people must stay at home around the clock. Residents may travel only for critical business such as work if their place of employment is designated as essential, seeking medical help or going to the grocery store.

The order requires all nonessential businesses to close and restricts further gatherings. Essential companies, like banks, grocery stores, health care facilities and pharmacies will remain open. Child care facilities and gas stations are also among those businesses that are exempt.

City leaders say with cases increasing in Hidalgo County, the intent of the order is to reduce direct social interaction to slow the spread of the coronavirus. Residents are only allowed to leave their homes for the following reasons:

- To get necessary supplies and services, including groceries and pet supplies
- For outdoor activity, including cycling and walking as long as they comply with strict social distancing requirements
- For certain types of work, including essential business, government service or critical infrastructure
- For health and safety, including doctors' and vet appointments

Violating the order makes you subject to arrest which carries a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or up to 180 days in jail. For a complete rundown of the Hidalgo County emergency order visit <https://www.hidalgocounty.us/2630/Coronavirus-Updates>