

PROTECTING CUSTOMERS AND EMPLOYEES AND PRESERVING ADQUATE

WORKFORCE CAPACITY

BY

STAYS IN FILE

THE COUNTY JUDGE OF TRAVIS COUNTY

County Judge Order 2022-01; Relating to COVID-19

Whereas, on March 6, 2020, a Declaration of Local Disaster was issued by the Travis County Judge to allow the County of Travis ("County" or "Travis County"), Texas to take measures to reduce the possibility of exposure to COVID-19 and promote the health and safety of Travis County residents; and

Whereas, on March 13, 2020, a Declaration of State of Disaster was issued by Governor Greg Abbott to take additional steps to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect the health and welfare of Texans; and

Whereas, the virus that causes COVID-19 is contagious and spreads through person-toperson contact, especially in group settings, is a virus that spreads mainly between people who are in close contact with one another respiratory droplets produced when an infected person speaks, sings, coughs, or sneezes; and

Whereas, infected persons can transmit the COVID-19 virus to others before showing any symptoms, and widespread and consistent use of face coverings over the nose and mouth when in public is a critical and necessary measure to help slow the spread of the virus while allowing local businesses to remain open and help the County economy recover; and

Whereas, a negative test result shows that an individual is not currently infected with COVID-19 and is a screening and infection control protocol that protects employees; and

Whereas, COVID-19 remains a public health threat due to the rise of variants of the disease and other factors; and

Whereas, COVID-19 and related variants continue to menace the health of Travis County residents and the area economy, the local Health Authority has advised that there is a need for education about health measures and continued vigilance in following health measures to prevent further transmission.

Whereas, the County Judge has determined that extraordinary emergency measures must be taken to try and mitigate the effects of this public health emergency and to facilitate a response to the public health threat;

Whereas, pursuant to Government Code section 418.108(g), a County Judge is authorized to control ingress and egress from a local disaster area, and control the movement of persons and the occupancy of premises in that disaster area; and

Whereas, Travis County includes all municipalities within the boundaries of Travis County listed in Exhibit A.

NOW THEREFORE, I, COUNTY JUDGE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED BY TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 418, HEREBY FIND AND ORDER, EFFECTIVE AS OF 12:00 P.M. ON JANUARY 17, 2022, THAT IN THE COUNTY OF TRAVIS:

- 1. Protecting Customers and Employees and Preserving Adquate Workforce Capacity. To ensure that the County's health, health industry, and general economy can continue to recover, the County authorizes a person in control of a Site to exercise discretion and impose one or more of the following requirements:
 - (a) require employees and customers to wear face coverings while on the Site;
 - (b) require employees and customers to show a negative COVID-19 test result to enter the Site;
 - (c) require employees to provide proof that the employee is vaccinated and, when appropriate, boosted; or
 - (d) allow employees or customers choose to provide proof that the employee or customer is vaccinated in lieu of showing a negative COVID-19 test result.
- 2. Notice of Protections Provided. A person in control of a Site must post a notice that identifies whether the person in control of the Site requires face coverings, negative COVID-19 tests, or vaccinations. The notice must be posted at each entry to the Site. A notice template is attached as Exhibit B.
- 3. General Signage Required. A person in control of a Site must post the sign attached as Exhibit C. The sign must be posted in a conspicuous location that is sufficient to provide notice to employees and customers of all health and safety recommendations during Stages 3, 4 and 5 as set forth in Austin Public Health's Risk-Based Chart attached as Exhibit D.
- 4. <u>Definition of Site.</u> A "Site" means property where goods and services are provided directly to the public. In Sections 2 and 3, a Site does not include:
 - property maintained by a governmental entity; or
 - dwelling unit where an individual resides.
- 5. **ENFORCEMENT.** A violation of this Order may be punishable through civil or criminal enforcement. The Travis County Sheriff's Office, the Travis County Fire Marshal's Office, and other peace officers are hereby authorized to enforce this Order. A criminal violation of this Order is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, but not by confinement. A criminal violation of this Order may be enforced by the filing of a probable cause affidavit alleging the violation with the appropriate court or by issuing a citation to the person violating the Order, which contains written notice of the name and address of the person charged, and the offense charged

- 6. The Austin Public Health Department and the Travis County Clerk will post this Order on their websites.
- Savings Clause. If any provision of this Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, then the remainder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.
- This Order is issued in accordance with and incorporates by reference all declarations, findings, and recitations set out in the preamble to this Order. This Order supplements any prior order issued by the Travis County Judge. Nothing in this Order prohibits or requires a person in control of a Site to:
 - (a) require or enforce the wearing of face coverings;
 - (b) require employees to obtain vaccines and boosters or to provide proof that the employee is vaccinated and boosted;
 - (c) require employees or customers to obtain testing; or
 - (d) accept proof of vaccination in lieu of testing.
- 9. This Order incorporates by reference the following:

Exhibit A: List of Cities and Municipalities within Travis County Jurisdiction Covered by this Order

Exhibit B: Notice Template

Exhibit C: Signage

Exhibit D: Austin Public Health's Risk-Based Chart

ORDERED this the 13th day of January, 2022 in the County of Travis, Texas.

County Judge

County of Travis, Texas

Filed with the Clerk of Travis County, this 13 day of January, 2022.

Dana, DeBeauvoir, County Clerk

Exhibit A

List of Cities and Municipalities Within Travis County Jurisdiction Covered by the Order

- City of Austin
- City of Bee Cave
- City of Cedar Park
- City of Creedmoor
- City of Elgin
- City of Jonestown
- City of Lago Vista
- City of Lakeway
- City of Leander
- City of Manor
- City of Mustang Ridge
- City of Pflugerville
- City of Rollingwood
- City of Round Rock
- City of Sunset Valley
- City of West Lake Hills
- Village of Briarcliff
- Village of Point Venture
- Village of San Leanna
- Village of The Hills
- Village of Volente
- Village of Webberville

NOTICE

Please be advised that this establishment is taking the following COVID-19 precautions to protect employees and public health:

	YES	NO
Requiring employees and customers to wear face coverings while on the site (except while eating or drinking);		
Requiring employees and customers to show a negative COVID-19 test result to enter the site;		
Requiring employees to provide proof that the employee is vaccinated and, when appropriate, boosted; or		
Allowing employees or customers to choose to provide proof that the employee or customer is vaccinated in lieu of showing a negative		

Help us keep employees safe! Local health officials recommend that you:

¡Ayúdenos a proteger a nuestro personal! Los funcionarios de salud locales recomiendan que:



Wear a Mask Use Mascarilla

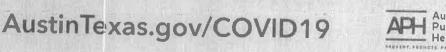


Vaccinate and get boosted against COVID-19

Se vacune y reciba la dosis de refuerzo contra COVID-19







Risk-Based Chart — Vaccinated

Exhibit D

* Please continue following additional requirements of local businesses, venues and schools regardless of vaccination status or stage. Schools, hospitals, and long term living centers follow CDC and APH guidelines—or—the regulatory agency's policy.

	Gatherings With People Outside Your Household*			Travel*		Dining*		Shopping*		
	Indoor		Outdoor		1		29		69	
	Low- Risk	High- Risk	Low- Risk	High- Risk	Low- Risk	High- Risk	Low- Risk	High- Risk	Low- Risk	High- Risk
Stage 1		0	9		E	3	9	9	5	7
Stage 2	9	0	9		6	3	9	0	9	
Stage 3	8		5	7	E	3	9	9		
Stage 4	8		9		8		8		8	
Stage 5	0	0	9	0	0	Only if essential	Indoors + 🕶	Outdoors	8	Takeaway/ Gurbside



Mask optional, continue washing hands and other hygiene precautions



Not recommended at all, with or without masks



Take prevention measures: wear a mask, wash your hands and social distance following CDC guidelines



Places that require vaccines and masks may pose a lower risk.



AustinTexas.gov/COVID19

Published: December 20, 2021



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Risk-Based Chart — Partly Vaccinated or Unvaccinated

* Please continue following additional requirements of local businesses, venues and schools regardless of vaccination status or stage. Schools, hospitals, and long term living centers follow CDC and APH guidelines—or—the regulatory agency's policy.

	Gatherings With Your Hou	People Outside usehold*	Travel*	Dining*	Shopping*	
	Indoor	Outdoor				
Stage 1	8	9	8	8		
Stage 2	8	8	8	9	8	
Stage 3	If high risk: avoid unless essential	If high risk: avoid unless essential	If high risk: avoid unless essential	If high risks	If high risk: avoid unless essential	
Stage 4	0	0	Only if essential	Takeaway/ Curbside	Only if essential	
Stage 5	0	0	0	Takeaway/ Curbside	Takeaway/ Curbside	



Mask optional, continue washing hands and other hygiene precautions



Not recommended at all, with or without masks



Take prevention measures: wear a mask, wash your hands and social distance following CDC guidelines



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FILED AND RECORDED OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS

Dana De Beauvoir

Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk Travis County, Texas

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Jan 13, 2022 09:42 AM

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