



**ORDER DECLARING LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER FOR TRAVIS COUNTY
FOR SEVERE WINTER WEATHER
BY THE TRAVIS COUNTY JUDGE**

WHEREAS, the National Weather Service has forecasted an arctic cold front is expected to bring dangerously cold temperatures and wind-chills to the state, including Travis County beginning in the evening hours of Friday, January 23, 2026 and has increasing confidence of wintry precipitation to impact Travis County, for the Hill Country and Austin metro areas. This includes freezing rain and sleet impacting the Travis County area.

WHEREAS, Governor Abbott has activated state emergency resources beginning Thursday, January 22, 2026 to prepare for severe weather based on current forecasts of the arctic cold front impacting Texas, bringing the possibility of freezing rain, sleet, and snow that could create hazardous travel conditions into the weekend and highlighting areas most at risk of wintry weather are northwest, north, and northeast Texas, with freezing rain and sleet are more likely to impact areas across west, central, south-central, east, and southeast Texas.

WHEREAS, in order to prepare for this arctic cold front and impacts of this severe weather, the Travis County Judge is issuing this Local Disaster Order and activating the Travis County emergency management plan.

WHEREAS, Section 418.004(1) of the Texas Government Code defines disaster to be the "occurrence or imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from any natural or man-made cause, including fire, flood, earthquake, wind, storm, wave action, oil spill or other water contamination, volcanic activity, epidemic, air contamination, blight, drought, infestation, explosion, riot, hostile military or paramilitary action, extreme heat, cybersecurity event, other public calamity requiring emergency action, or energy emergency;"

WHEREAS, the County Judge of Travis County has determined from information provided by emergency management personnel, that persons within Travis County may be severely impacted by the severe winter weather with the occurrence and continued threat of widespread and severe property damage, and possible injury resulting from the severe winter weather;

WHEREAS, Texas Government Code Chapter 418, Section 418.108 authorizes the County Judge of a county to declare a local state of disaster, and exercise the powers granted therein on an appropriate local scale;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted to the County Judge under the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, I authorize the use of all available resources to assist in the County's response to this situation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS:

1. That a local state of disaster is hereby declared for Travis County, Texas, pursuant to section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
2. Pursuant to section 418.108(b) of the Government Code, the state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven (7) days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by the Commissioners Court of Travis County, Texas.
3. Pursuant to section 418.108(c) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk.
4. Pursuant to section 418.108(d) of the Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Travis County emergency management plan.
5. Pursuant to the authority granted under the laws of the State of Texas, the County may take actions necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of persons in the County, and to protect or rehabilitate property due to this disaster, including providing disaster relief and facilitating access to food, water, shelter and to protect and rehabilitate property due to this disaster.
6. Pursuant to Section 418.173, Texas Government Code, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates any directive legally authorized and issued by this Declaration commits an offense, punishable by a fine up to \$1,000.00 or confinement for a term that does not exceed 180 days.
7. That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

DECLARED this 23rd day of January, 2026.

DocuSigned by:

Andy Brown

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Andy Brown, County Judge
County of Travis, Texas

Filed with the Clerk of Travis County:

Alpina Limon-Mercado

County Clerk

JAN 23 2026

Date: _____

STAYS IN FILE



2026007613

**FILED AND RECORDED
OFFICIAL PUBLIC RECORDS**

Dyana Limon-Mercado

**Dyana Limon-Mercado, County Clerk
Travis County, Texas**

Jan 23, 2026 09:49 AM

Fee: \$0.00

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