POSTED: 4/24/2023

AT_

ZONIA G. MORALES
COUNTY AND DISTRICT CLERK
JIM HOGG COUNTY, TEXAS



DECLARATION OF RENEWED LOCAL STATE OF DISASTER RELATED TO SURGE OF MIGRANTS UNLAWFULLY CROSSING TEXAS-MEXICO BORDER

WHEREAS, Jim Hogg County Judge Juan Carlos Guerra declared a Local State of Disaster on April 21, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court for Jim Hogg County approved the declaration of Local State of Disaster on June 9, 2021, and such declaration has been in effect since that date; and

WHEREAS, Jim Hogg County continues to experience a surge of undocumented migrants as a result of migrants unlawfully crossing the Texas – Mexico Border, entering Jim Hogg County and overwhelming local, state, and federal law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the continued surge of undocumented migrants has resulted in an increased number of high-speed chases, bailouts, thefts, assault, robbery, damage to property, including a high number of broken ranch fences, and poses an imminent threat of widespread injury or loss of life to the citizens of Jim Hogg County and migrants alike; and

WHEREAS, the continued surge of transient migrants crossing the Texas – Mexico Border and entering Jim Hogg County has the potential of endangering lives and damaging property on a large scale; and

WHEREAS, the magnitude of the potential damage and the rapidity with which the surge of undocumented migrants crossing the Texas – Mexico Border and entering Jim Hogg County could escalate and constitutes an imminent threat of disaster; and

WHEREAS, the conditions present in the June 9, 2021 Declaration of Local State of Disaster continue to exist and pose an ongoing and imminent threat of disaster including that the public health and safety of the residents of Jim Hogg County is under an imminent threat of disaster from an elevated risk of exposure to unknown variants of COVID-19 resulting from the human trafficking occurring on our border with Mexico. The limited resources of Jim Hogg County cannot adequately furnish the necessary procedures and facilities set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for the testing and quarantining of hundreds of undocumented migrants who may be

infected with unknown variants of COVID-19, or other infectious diseases that residents have not been vaccinated for; and

WHEREAS, the renewed declaration of such a disaster authorizes the imposition of controls on activities which tend to increase the likelihood of injury to the public; and

WHEREAS, such controls, once implemented, have the potential of protecting lives and property by mitigating the threat to the health and safety of citizens and migrants caused by the surge in undocumented migrants crossing the Texas-Mexico Border.

County Judge of Jim Hogg County, Texas, has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to ensure the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of county residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE AND COMMISSIONERS OF Jim Hogg County, Texas:

- 1. That a local state of disaster is hereby renewed for Jim Hogg County, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
- 2. Pursuant to Section 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date of this declaration unless renewed by the County Judge or continued by the Commissioners' Court of Jim Hogg County, Texas.
- 3. Pursuant to Section 418.108(c) of the Texas 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 of Jim Hogg County, Texas.
- 4. Pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Jim Hogg County emergency management plan.
- 5. Pursuant to Section 362.003(a) of the Texas Local Government Code, this renewed local state of disaster is intended to authorize, and does hereby declare, that a state of civil emergency exists in Jim Hogg County, Texas, and requests the assistance of additional law enforcement to uphold the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the county.
- 6. Pursuant to Section 433.00S(a) of the Texas Government Code, this renewed local state of disaster is intended to request, and does hereby request, that the Governor of Texas provide state military forces to aid in controlling conditions in the county by assisting the County Sheriff in the enforcement of law and the preservation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the county.
- 7. That this renewed declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available resources and authority granted under both the Constitution of Texas and the Constitution of the United States.

8. That this declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance and, upon approval by the Jim Hogg County Commissioners' Court, shall continue in effect until terminated by the County Judge. Pursuant to this declaration, additional directives may be issued by the County Judge at any time deemed necessary.

ORDERED this <u>36</u> day of April 2023.

Juan Carlos Guerra Jim Hogg County Judge

Antonio (Tony) Flores, III

Jim Hogg County Commissioner Pct. 1

Abelardo Alaniz

Jim Hogg County Commissioner Pct. 2

Sandalio Ruiz

Jim Hogg County Commissioner Pct. 3

Cynthia Guerra Betancourt

Jim Hogg County Commissioner Pct. 4