



*Montague County Judge
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Citizens of Montague County:

As many of you are aware, Governor Abbott issued a new Executive Order on Friday, June 26, 2020, which rolls back some of the reopening guidelines of Texas. These changes should have a small impact on Montague County. He has ordered all bars to be closed again. The occupancy rate of businesses and restaurants will revert to 50% in lieu of the 75% originally achieved. However, counties with a current attestation filed with and approved by DSHS regarding the minimal cases of COVID-19, will remain at the 75% occupancy rate. Montague County falls within that classification. In paragraph 5 of the order, any outdoor gathering in excess of 100 people, other than those set forth in paragraphs 1, 2, or 4 (a lengthy set of activities covered by the Executive Order) must be authorized by the mayor if within the incorporated city limits or the county judge if the activity is proposed in the unincorporated area of the county.

Please understand a privately owned business has the legal authority to impose additional requirements for health and hygiene which could include face coverings.

Montague County has followed and will continue to follow all rules as mandated by Governor Abbott, as well as the Supreme Court of Texas.

COVID-19 is an everchanging issue. My office is in continual contact with the Montague County Health Officer. As we are aware, this virus has the capability of causing serious health issues to some individuals. Please continue to be vigilant, responsible, and use common sense regarding your health, your family's health, and the health of your neighbors.

I would encourage each of you to read the best health practices per DSHS and Governor Abbott's Executive Order 28. Both can be found at gov.texas.gov/opentexas.

I will keep you informed of any additional information or updated orders as they are received by my office.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. L. Benton".

Kevin L. Benton
County Judge
Montague County, Texas

