



City of Galveston

PRESS RELEASE

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Four new orders in effect beginning Tuesday, including Stay at Home order

Galveston Mayor Jim Yarbrough and the Galveston City Council issued four orders Monday, including a Stay at Home order.

Galveston, TX – March 24, 2020 – Four new City of Galveston orders went into effect Tuesday, including a City of Galveston order for residents to stay at home except for essential activities. The Stay at Home order is in effect at 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, March 24, 2020.

The City of Galveston is closely monitoring the public health situation in Galveston County and COVID-19 cases. At this time, there have been 21 confirmed cases in the county.

The City of Galveston has implemented a series of measures intended to protect the health and safety of Galveston residents. Mayor James Yarbrough on Monday, March 16, 2020, signed a Declaration of a Local State of Disaster related to the emergence of the Coronavirus (COVID-19.)

The Galveston City Council on Tuesday voted unanimously to extend emergency orders declared within the last week until 5 p.m. on Friday, April 3, 2020. These include an order closing major attractions and bars; an order limiting restaurants to takeout or delivery services only; an order closing public beach amenities; and an order closing certain beach access points. On Tuesday, March 24, 2020, four additional orders went into effect, including a Stay at Home Order. After a vote of City Council, all orders are in effect until 5 p.m. on Friday, April 3, 2020.

“In the interest of slowing the spread of COVID19, we are asking in the strongest way possible for residents to stay at home,” Mayor Jim Yarbrough said. “Unless you have critical business outside of the house, we ask that you do not leave. We are all accountable to each other to slow the spread of this virus in our community.”





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The text of the orders is available online. The new orders include:

Stay at Home: Residents within the City of Galveston are ordered to stay at home unless performing essential activities or business. A list of essential activities and essential businesses is included in the order.

- All individuals currently living within the City of Galveston are ordered to stay home. This includes residences such as hotels, motels, rentals and similar facilities.
- All businesses operating within City of Galveston except Essential Business are required to cease all activities within Galveston. Businesses may continue operations consisting exclusively of employees or contractors performing activities at their own residences.
- All public or private gatherings of any number of people occurring outside a single household or living unit are prohibited.
- Restaurants, microbreweries, micro-distilleries, or wineries may only provide takeout, delivery or drive-thru services.
- Religious and worship services may only be provided by video and teleconference.
- All elective medical, surgical and dental procedures are prohibited anywhere in the City of Galveston.
- Essential Activities and Essential Business are spelled out in the order.





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Short-term rental: Short-term rentals operating within the City of Galveston are prohibited from renting or leasing short-term rentals.

Electronic Amusement Games: Businesses located within the City of Galveston are prohibited from operating electronic amusement machines.

Fishing piers and charter operations: Fishing piers and charter fishing operators are prohibited from operating within the City of Galveston.

In addition to these orders, we encourage residents to continue safe social distancing and healthy hygiene practices.

