



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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*Social Gathering Clarification*

**March 20, 2020 (Gonzales, TX)** – While working within the fluidity of the evolving circumstances as they pertain to COVID-19, the City of Gonzales' Declaration of Public Health Emergency that was adopted incorporated language to update restrictions set out by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) as they evolve without requiring action by the City Council to issue a new declaration.

**The city posted public notice on 03/19/2020 referencing the number of persons allowed for gatherings was reduced from fifty (50) to ten (10) for enclosed spaces.**

As local restaurants and bars prepare to make significant adjustments to their operations in compliance to these guidelines, the following clarification is offered:

- Restaurants and bars may accommodate no more than 10 individuals within each enclosed room of their establishment implementing the minimum spacing of arm's length apart at any given time.
- If a restaurant or bar offers outdoor seating, they may accommodate in excess of 10—provided all patrons are practicing social distancing with a minimum of arm's length apart—until 11:59PM, tonight, March 20, 2020
- At 11:59PM, tonight, March 20, 2020, all restaurants and bars must cease all dine-in service options and may only offer take-out, curbside and delivery
- **This excludes all essential services such as grocery stores, banks, gas stations and parks—though all precautions such as social distancing, hand washing and sanitizing are still necessary**

**As the City of Gonzales continues to work proactively to take measures to protect its citizenry, it will remain committed to providing the latest information as it becomes available.**

**The sooner citizens reduce their public contact, the sooner COVID-19 will be behind us and this order will expire.**

**Thank you to each of our citizens for working alongside City leadership to ensure the health and safety of our public.**

