

**BARTON COUNTY EMERGENCY ORDER No. 2020-01**  
**OF LOCAL HEALTH OFFICER And MEDICAL CONSULTANT**  
**PUBLIC GATHERING RESTRICTION**

Emergency Public Health Order issued on this 27th day of March, 2020 to mitigate the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic in Barton County, Kansas, pursuant to the authority provided in K.S.A. 65-119 and K.S.A. 65-129b and other applicable laws or regulations.

WHEREAS, the Local Health Officer is authorized and required, pursuant to K.S.A. 65-119 and K.S.A. 65-129b to immediately exercise and maintain a supervision over known or suspected cases of any infectious or contagious disease during its continuance, and to issue orders seeing that all such cases are properly handled and that the provisions of the Kansas public health laws as to isolation, quarantine and disinfection are duly enforced: and

WHEREAS, the local Health Officer is appointed by the Board of County Commissioners and is authorized to prohibit public gatherings when necessary for the control of any and all infectious or contagious diseases, pursuant to K.S.A. 65-119: and

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, has been confirmed in Kansas, resulting in serious illness and at least three deaths to date in Kansas; and

WHEREAS, such conditions endanger health, safety and welfare of persons and property within the border of Barton County, Kansas; and


WHEREAS, to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and the Barton County Health Officer and Medical Director, all recommend implementation of community mitigation strategies to increase containment of the virus, including cancellation of large gatherings and social distancing in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the resulting epidemic in the United States and in Kansas continue to threaten the life and health of our citizens and visitors as well as the economy and remains a public disaster affecting life, health, property, and the public peace.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the Local Health Officer and Medical Director, pursuant to the above authorities, that:

1. All public gatherings of people in the county are prohibited. Public gatherings are those with more than ten (10) people in attendance or anticipated to attend, both indoor and outdoor, except for governmental functions, judicial functions, and all deemed essential industries as defined by US Homeland Security.
2. All restaurants, dining facilities, bars, taverns, clubs, fitness centers, swimming pools, and any public gathering locations or special event in Barton County, Kansas are hereby ordered closed to the public effective at 12:01 p.m. on Friday March 27, 2020 until further notice except that any such establishment may continue to provide carryout, drive-through, and delivery of food and beverage services. In all areas, establishments must follow the guidance provided by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), federal, state, and local public health officials for social distancing and infection control measures.
3. This order may be supplanted or modified as required for the effective and efficient management and control of the Coronavirus epidemic in the County by further order or direction of the Barton County Health Officer and Medical Consultant.
4. Violation of this order shall be a violation of K.S.A. 65-119 and is punishable by law, pursuant to K.S.A. 65-127. This order shall be enforced by any city, state and local law enforcement officer with jurisdiction in Barton County, Kansas.

Signed this 27th day of March, 2020.



Karen Winkelman,  
Barton County Local Health Officer



Stanley M. Hatesohl, MD  
Barton County Medical Consultant