

**DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE  
OF DISASTER AND REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE**

**MAY 17 2023**

COUNTY & DISTRICT CLERK, KINNEY CO.

**WHEREAS**, the health, life, and property of the residents of Kinney County are under an imminent threat of disaster from the cartel orchestrated invasion occurring on our border with Mexico. The transnational criminal activity occurring along our open border with Mexico has overwhelmed our local, state, and federal law enforcement and continues to threaten the safety and security of Kinney County residents.

**WHEREAS**, on May 11, 2023, the Department of Homeland Security ceased the enforcement of the Title 42 public health order, resulting in an unprecedented number of persons from over 150 different countries traveling towards the Texas border with the intent of illegally entering the United States. This forecasted increase and the transnational criminal activity that it creates poses an imminent threat to the safety and security of Kinney County and the State of Texas.

**WHEREAS**, the lack of any physical barriers or means of deterrence along our 17 mile border with Mexico poses great risks to the health, safety, and welfare of county residents.

**WHEREAS**, the County Judge of Kinney County, Texas has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to ensure the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of county residents against the cartel orchestrated invasion occurring on our border with Mexico and to preserve the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kinney County; and

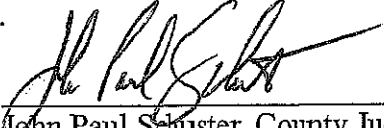
**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, the County Judge is designated as the Emergency Management Director of the County of Kinney and may exercise the powers granted to the governor on an appropriate local scale; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF KINNEY COUNTY, TEXAS:**


1. That a local state of disaster is hereby declared for Kinney County, Texas, pursuant to Section 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.
2. Pursuant to Section 433.005(a) of the Texas Government Code (*Calling of State Military Forces*) and Article 4, Section 7 of the Texas Constitution (*Governor as commander-in-chief of military forces*), this declaration does hereby request the Governor to immediately deploy the necessary resources and personnel to Kinney County to repel all elements of the cartel orchestrated invasion occurring on our border with Mexico and to preserve the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kinney County by preventing all unlawful entries into the state of Texas.


3. That this declaration hereby requests the Governor to utilize all authority granted under Article 4, Section 7 of the Texas Constitution and Article 1, Section 10, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution in carrying out this request in Kinney County.
4. 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 Kinney County, Texas.
5. Pursuant to Section 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Kinney County emergency management plan.
6. That this declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance and, upon approval by the Kinney 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.

DECLARED this 17 day of May 2023.

  
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John Paul Schuster, County Judge  
Kinney County, Texas

  
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Commissioner Tim Ward

  
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Commissioner Dennis Dodson

  
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Commissioner Joe Montalvo

  
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Commissioner Mark Frerich