



NEWS Release

Aransas County Courthouse • 2840 Hwy. 35 N. • Rockport, TX 78382

**Office of
C.H. “Burt” Mills,
Aransas County Judge**

October 8, 2020

On October 7, 2020, Governor Greg Abbott issued an Executive Order authorizing county officials to open bars and similar establishments up to a 50% capacity in hospital regions with low COVID-19 hospitalizations. The Governor's Executive Order also increases the occupancy levels for all business establishments, other than bars, to 75%.

Aransas County is part of the Coastal Bend Trauma Service Area (“TSA”); and because of the ongoing precautionary measures and safety procedures we have in place, our TSA has low COVID-19 related hospitalizations. Therefore, I am authorizing the opening of bars and similar establishments up to a 50% occupancy, effective October 14, 2020. Please note, however, safety procedures and certain protocols must still be followed as indicated below:

As recommended by trade associations representing bars, dance floors at bars and similar establishments must remain closed. Consistent with protocols for restaurants, all patrons must be seated while eating or drinking (with limited exceptions for sampling at breweries, distilleries, and wineries), and must wear masks when they are not seated at a table. Additionally, tables must be limited to six individuals or less and all establishments must follow specific curfew guidelines.

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