

Cinderela
Guevara



Presidio County Judge

August 20, 2021

**PRESS RELEASE, FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
IMPACT OF COVID-19**

To The Residents of Presidio County:

Texas remains under a Disaster Declaration issued by our Governor Gregg Abbott on March 31, 2020. It certified under Section 481.014 of the Texas Government Code that the novel coronavirus (Covid-19) poses an imminent threat of disaster for all Texas counties.

Many Executive Orders were issued from March 2020 to June 2021. Most recently, on 07-29-2021, Governor Abbott issued Executive Order (GA-38) which states, "No governmental entity can require or mandate the wearing of masks." Governor Abbott also stated in a press release that, "The path forward relies on personal responsibility- not government mandates. Texans have mastered the safe practices that help to prevent Covid-19. They have the individual right and responsibility to decide for themselves and their children whether they will wear masks, open their businesses and engage in leisure activity." (The entire order may be viewed at www.gov.texas.gov)

While I am proud to say that Presidio County leads the state with most vaccinated populace, the path ahead for us will continue to have its ups and downs and will require resilience. As lockdowns have been relaxed and all segments of the economy reopened, we are now hearing of a great number of viral resurgencies with the new Delta Variant and the rise of Covid hospitalizations.

If we as a county are to return to work and to school safely and effectively, as your presiding leadership,

“I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THE WEARING OF FACE MASKS AGAIN.”

According to our Local Health Authority, Doctor Rachel Sonne, Texas Department of State Health Services, Region 9/10, this will be the best public health practice to the prevention and spreading of the virus.

Also the Centers for Disease Control revised a decision made 3 months ago, saying that people VACCINATED AGAINST THE CORONAVIRUS SHOULD RESUME WEARING MASKS in public indoor spaces in parts of the country where the virus is surging.

CDC officials also called for universal masking of teachers, staff, students, and visitors in schools, REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS and community transmission of the virus.

NOW may be the moment for us as Presidio County residents to consider a process for preserving “lives and livelihoods.” It is my hope that having an understanding that we may still unknowingly carry the virus to people we love and want to protect will outweigh any political value we may esteem in the no mask mandate.

Yours, very respectfully,



**Cinderela Guevara
Presidio County Judge
Presidio County, Texas**