



October 26, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Tanner, County Judge  
Potter County  
500 S. Fillmore Street, Suite 103  
Amarillo, Texas 79101

*Via electronic mail to [nancytanner@mypottercounty.com](mailto:nancytanner@mypottercounty.com)*

Dear Judge Tanner:

On Wednesday, October 7, 2020, Governor Abbott issued Executive Order GA-32, which superseded GA-30. Significantly, GA-32 updates the thresholds for areas with high hospitalizations. The new definition of areas with high hospitalizations is:

Any Trauma Service Area that has had seven consecutive days in which the number of COVID-19 hospitalized patients as a percentage of total hospital capacity exceeds 15 percent, until such time as the Trauma Service Area has seven consecutive days in which the number of COVID-19 hospitalized patients as a percentage of total hospital capacity is 15 percent or less.

For the past seven days, the number of COVID-19 hospitalized patients in Trauma Service Area A as a percentage of total hospital capacity exceeds 15 percent, making it an area with high hospitalizations as defined above.

As a result, as of October 26, 2020, all restaurants, retail stores, office buildings, manufacturing facilities, gyms and exercise facilities and classes, museums, and libraries in all counties in Trauma Service Area A are required to return to maximum 50 percent occupancy levels, except in any county that separately qualifies for the greater occupancy levels because it has minimal cases of COVID-19 under the Department of State Health Services attestation process.

Trauma Service Area A includes the following counties:

- Armstrong County
- Briscoe County
- Carson County
- Childress County
- Collingsworth County
- Dallam County
- Deaf Smith County
- Donley County
- Gray County
- Hall County
- Hansford County
- Hartley County
- Hemphill County
- Hutchinson County
- Lipscomb County
- Moore County
- Ochiltree County
- Oldham County
- Parmer County
- Potter County
- Randall County
- Roberts County
- Sherman County
- Swisher County
- Wheeler County

Additionally, all licensed hospitals in the Trauma Service Area are required to discontinue elective surgeries as set forth in Executive Order GA-31. The Health and Human Services Commission, as the agency responsible for regulating hospitals in Texas, is separately providing notice directly to affected hospitals notifying them of the requirement to discontinue elective surgeries located in Trauma Service Area A.

If you have questions about this notice or your obligations under Executive Order GA-32, please contact us at [coronavirus@dshs.texas.gov](mailto:coronavirus@dshs.texas.gov). Please enter "Executive Order 32" in the subject line for proper routing. If you have questions specifically related to the hospitals' obligations under GA-31, please contact the Health and Human Services Commission at [infohflc@hhs.texas.gov](mailto:infohflc@hhs.texas.gov).

Sincerely,



John Hellerstedt, M.D.

cc: Mayors in Potter County