



## **Bexar County Commissioners Court**

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**For Immediate Release:  
February 22, 2017**

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### **REQUEST FOR COVERAGE**

#### **Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff announces Disaster Declaration during Bexar County Emergency Preparedness Exercise**

This morning, Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff, flanked by emergency responders and elected officials from Bexar County suburban cities announced the Disaster Declaration for Bexar County and on behalf of all suburban cities located within.

Against a backdrop of first responders engaging in a full-scale emergency preparedness exercise across multi-jurisdictional boundaries, the County Judge stated, “Disasters don’t follow jurisdictional lines. As soon as I saw the damage on Monday, I knew we would need to declare a disaster in Bexar County. However, I wanted to make certain that all the suburban cities in Bexar County were also included in this declaration. If they suffered any damage, I wanted to make sure that their recovery needs are also included.”

County Judge Nelson Wolff also made a formal request from Bexar County to Governor Abbott for assistance in recovering costs associated with the emergency response and for damages associated with the recent storms and subsequent tornado activity experienced across the County.

###



NELSON W. WOLFF  
COUNTY JUDGE  
PAUL ELIZONDO TOWER  
101 W. NUEVA STREET, SUITE 1019  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78205-3482  
(210) 335-1326 • FAX (210) 335-2926  
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February 22, 2017

The Honorable Greg Abbott  
Governor of Texas  
c/o State Coordinator  
Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)  
Texas Department of Public Safety  
5805 North Lamar Blvd.  
Austin, Texas 78752-4422


Dear Governor Abbott,

As a result of the tornadoes that occurred on February 19, 2017, Bexar County is currently facing tremendous physical and economic loss.

It is our belief that the substantial tornado damage constitutes a public health and safety hazard for Bexar County. We have determined that the severity and magnitude of this disaster is beyond the capability of Bexar County to effectively recover from without supplementary State and Federal assistance. Additionally, we certify that Bexar County does not have sufficient resources to provide long-term recovery for our residents. We are requesting that you issue the appropriate directives to deal with this request.

Your assistance in this emergency matter, as it affects the health and safety of our residents, would be appreciated.

Respectfully,

  
Nelson W. Wolff  
Bexar County Judge

Enclosure:  
Local Disaster Declaration for Bexar County, February 22, 2017

## DECLARATION OF DISASTER

**WHEREAS**, the County of Bexar, Texas, has suffered widespread or severe damage, and loss of property resulting from tornadoes that occurred on February 19, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, the Judge of the County of Bexar has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to alleviate the suffering of people and to protect or rehabilitate property;

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

**Section 1.** That a local state of disaster is hereby declared for the County of Bexar pursuant to Chapter 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.

**Section 2.** Pursuant to Chapter 418.108(b) of the Texas Government Code, the state of disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date of this declaration unless continued or renewed by consent of the Commissioners Court of the County of Bexar, Texas.

**Section 3.** Pursuant to Chapter 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 by the Bexar County Clerk.


**Section 4.** Pursuant to Chapter 418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the Bexar County Emergency Management Plan.

**Section 5.** That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

**ORDERED** this the 22 day of February, 2017.

  
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**Nelson W. Wolff**  
Bexar County Judge

ATTEST:

  
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**Gerard C. Rickoff**  
Bexar County Clerk