Local authorities in your jurisdiction, place of residence, or place of work have implemented a “shelter in place” or “stay at residence” order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The order does not apply to essential government services or functions that provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) considers agency operations to be essential government services or functions. Accordingly, employees are required to report to work according to the needs of each division, as directed by the executive director or designee.

Therefore, for the duration of this order, when performing your TDCJ job duties, or when traveling to or from activities required by your TDCJ job duties, ensure you have this letter with you at all times and present this letter if necessary to show compliance with the order.

This letter serves as notice to law enforcement or other authority enforcing the “shelter in place” or “stay at residence” order that your official job duties are required to ensure TDCJ can provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Law Enforcement may contact Rita Tecmire (806-743-3280) with Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Managed Care for any questions or confirmation of the necessity of the employee’s travel.