



Health and Safety Policy In Compliance with Bell County Judge Directive #7

The Belton Area Chamber of Commerce has adopted a Health and Safety Policy as described in the order issued June 24, 2020 by Bell County Judge David Blackburn.

Policy:

Effective June 29, 2020, the Belton Area Chamber of Commerce requires all employees and visitors to wear a face covering at the Chamber office and Visitors Center when we cannot ensure sufficient social/physical distancing (6 feet between persons from different households).

Notification:

The Belton Area Chamber of Commerce has posted signage provided by the Bell County Public Health District on our public entrances, common areas, and website to notify our employees and visitors of the policy.

Implementation:

The Belton Area Chamber of Commerce has implemented this policy by:

- Notifying our employees and visitors of the policy;
- Requiring our employees to wear a face covering while at work when maintaining sufficient physical social distancing from another person is impossible or unlikely; and
- Requiring visitors to wear a face covering when visiting our office/Visitor Center.

The Health and Safety Policy is in response to Directive #7:

Directive #7 was issued by the Bell County Judge on June 24, 2020 as the 7th Directive associated with the Disaster Declaration that the Commissioners Court approved on March 23, 2020. This Directive to the Disaster Declaration was made in response to the recent spike in COVID-19 cases within Bell County.

- The Directive was issued in response to the increased number of cases in Bell County, along with an increase in the positivity rate of COVID-19 cases and a decrease in the available hospital bed capacity for area hospitals.
- It is important to issue this order now in order to have the greatest possible effect on reducing the spread of COVID-19 WITHOUT another shelter-in-place order, which none of us want.

Key measures of the order:

- Businesses are to comply by June 29th.
- All employees or visitors to the business or other facilities must wear face coverings when in an area or performing an activity which involves close contact or proximity to co-workers or the public where six feet of separation is not feasible.
- Face coverings may include homemade masks, scarfs, bandanas, or a handkerchief.

- Employees, visitors, and all residents of Bell County should continue physical distancing of at least six feet while outside your home.
- County employees are also required to wear face coverings under the same circumstances as the public.
- Encourage the public to work to protect our neighbors, friends, and family members by adhering to this order.

Face coverings do not need to be worn in the following circumstances:

- When exercising outside or engaging in physical activity outside.
- While driving alone or with passengers who are part of the same household as the driver.
- When doing so poses a greater mental or physical health, safety, or security risk.
- While operating outdoor equipment or pumping.
- While in a building or participating in an activity that requires security surveillance, screening, or identification, for example, banks. When consuming food or drink.

Churches:

- Churches and places of worship are not considered commercial businesses; therefore this order does not apply to them.
- We do hope that they will consider wearing face coverings as a best practice, however.

Questions:

Please call 254.933.5203 if you have questions, Monday thru Friday, 8-5.

This policy was adopted June 26, 2020 for implementation on June 29, 2020.



Randy Pittenger, President/CEO