



## DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER FOR VICTORIA COUNTY, TEXAS

WHEREAS, the County of Victoria on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2022, is under imminent threat of severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property resulting from exceptional drought conditions; and

WHEREAS, the County Judge of Victoria County has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to protect the safety of persons and property; and

WHEREAS, the County Judge of Victoria County has determined that the sale, use and discharge of fireworks within the unincorporated area of Victoria County poses a serious threat to the citizens of Victoria County and their property.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT IS PROCLAIMED BY THE County Judge of Victoria County,

That a local state of disaster is hereby declared for Victoria County pursuant to §418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.

Pursuant to §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 the Commissioner's Court of Victoria County.

Pursuant to §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 with the County Clerk.

Pursuant to §418.108(d) of the Texas Government Code, this declaration of a local state of disaster activates the county emergency management plan.

Pursuant to the authority granted under section 418.108(i) of the Texas Government Code, the sale, use and discharge of all fireworks in the unincorporated area of Victoria County is expressly prohibited. This prohibition exceeds the restriction authorized by Section 352.051 Local Government Code; therefore, as required by 418.108 of the Texas Government Code, a request will be sent to the Governor to extend the period prohibiting the sale and use of fireworks beyond the 60-hour period.

That any person who knowingly or intentionally violates the prohibition on the sale, use and discharge of fireworks in the unincorporated area of Victoria County commits a Class C Misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$500.00.

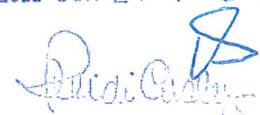
That this proclamation shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

FILED

ORDERED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2022.

2022 JUN 21 P 3:03

  
Ben Zeller  
Victoria County Judge

  
Heidi Cosh  
COUNTY CLERK  
VICTORIA COUNTY, TEXAS



**BEN ZELLER**  
VICTORIA COUNTY JUDGE

The Honorable Greg Abbott  
Office of the Governor  
P.O. Box 12428  
Austin, Texas 78711-2428

Dear Governor Abbott,

Victoria County is experiencing extreme drought conditions, and these conditions are projected to continue through the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday period. Due to these conditions, it is imperative that we take action to protect the lives and property of the citizens of our county.

As Victoria County Judge, I have signed a Declaration of Local Disaster due to extreme drought conditions on June 21, 2022. The declaration and order ban the sale and use of all fireworks in the unincorporated area of Victoria County. The declaration will be submitted to the Victoria County Commissioners Court, as required by Government Code 418.108, to consent with the County Judge's declaration. This ban does exceed the restriction authorized by Section 352.051 Local Government Code; therefore, as required by 418.108 of the Government Code, I request that Governor Abbott extend the period prohibiting the sale and use of all fireworks beyond the 60-hour period.

Please notify my office if there is further action needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ben Zeller".

Ben Zeller

Victoria County Judge