

WHEREAS, the pandemic has halted our lives as we have had no choice, but to adapt to a new kind of normal in order to protect the health and safety of our community; and,

WHEREAS, there are some traditions that must continue, such as the visit of Santa Claus in order to give the children of our community the miracle of Christmas magic; and,

WHEREAS, it is important to express to the children of El Paso, that Santa Claus's annual trip will be designated as "essential travel" for essential purposes; and,

WHEREAS, Santa Claus is exempt from the need to self-quarantine and will be able to come in and out of our community without having to restrict his movement; and,

WHEREAS, children should not stay up all night because he does need to social distance while delivering presents and drinking milk and eating cookies; and,

WHEREAS, the children of our community have remained resilient and we must continue to share the love and joy this holiday season; Santa Claus will be able to visit those children at home and those that are sick and injured and cared for by the selfless and committed staff at El Paso Children's Hospital.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the El Paso County Judge and Commissioners Court do hereby declare Santa Claus as essential so he could deliver holiday joy and cheer on December 24, 2020.

SIGNED, this 14th day of December 2020

Commissioner Carlos Leon, Pct. 1

Commissioner David Stout, Pct. 2

Commissioner Vincent M. Perez, Pct. 3

Commissioner Carl L. Robinson, Pct. 4

County Judge Ricardo A. Samaniego