WHEREAS, the Texas Local Government Code authorizes the Commissioners Court to adopt an order granting an exemption from competitive requirements for certain purchases;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Abbott issued a disaster proclamation certifying that COVID-19 posed an imminent threat of disaster for all counties of the state of Texas and on March 19, 2020 Dr. John W. Hellerstedt with the Commission of the Department of State Health Services declared a state of public health disaster for the State of Texas stating the COVID-19 created an immediate threat which posed a high risk of death to a large number of people and created a substantial risk of public exposure;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 418.108, Nueces County Judge Barbara Canales issued a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency on March 13, 2020 due to COVID-19 and such Order was extended by the Nueces County Commissioners Court on March 18, 2020;

WHEREAS, as of May 15, 2020 there were a total of 209 COVID-19 cases reported in Nueces County;

WHEREAS, as the County Courthouse re-opening to the public is imminent efforts must be made to prevent and slow the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, thermal scanning technology is capable of identifying visitors who may have an active infection, thereby preventing the continued spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, thermal scanners because of the COVID-19 pandemic are in demand thereby necessitating quick action to ensure their availability;

WHEREAS, the state and local disaster declarations remain in place and the Nueces County Judge, as the Emergency Manager Director for the County is responsible for meeting the dangers to the County and people presented by disasters, authorized the purchase of thermal scanners being an item necessary to preserve and protect the public health of the residents of Nueces County;

WHEREAS, Section 262.024(2) of the Texas Local Government Code provides that an item necessary to preserve or protect the public health or safety of the residents of the county is exempt from competitive bidding;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED, by the Commissioners Court of Nueces County, that the purchase of thermal scanners to be used in County facilities, including the Nueces County Courthouse, is exempt from the competitive bidding requirements of Section 262.023 of the Texas Local Government Code, because they are necessary to preserve or protect the public health or safety of the residents of the county and any such previous determination is herein ratified.
DULY ADOPTED BY VOTE OF THE COMMISSIONERS COURT OF NUECES COUNTY, TEXAS, ON THE 27th DAY OF MAY 2020.

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BARBARA CANALES
Nueces County Judge

__________________________          _____________________________
CAROLYN VAUGHN                                                                                   JOE A. GONZALEZ
Commissioner, Precinct 1                                                                           Commissioner, Precinct 2

__________________________                   _____________________________
JOHN MAREZ                                                                 BRENT CHESNEY
Commissioner, Precinct 3                Commissioner, Precinct 4

ATTEST:__________________________
Kara Sands, County Clerk