



Brazoria County Environmental Health Department
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Jodie Vice, BA, RS, DR
Director

Denise Posey, BS, RS, DR, CE
Supervisor

August 5, 2021

City of West Columbia
512 E. Brazos Ave.
West Columbia, Texas 77486

RE: Interlocal Agreements with Cities Located in Brazoria County Relating to Regulations on the Permitting of Retail Food Stores and Food Service Establishments.

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is a reminder of a Brazoria County Interlocal Agreement in place with West Columbia since October 15, 1991, requesting the Brazoria County Environmental Health Department regulate Food Establishments in your municipal limits.

Additionally, on July 27th, 2010, Brazoria County Commissioners Court passed Court Order No. VIII.B.3.a limiting the number of food establishments allowed under all existing Interlocal Agreements Regulating Food Establishments. This order terminates all such agreements if the number of food establishments exceeds 40. This order went into effect October 1, 2010.

For informational purposes, a food establishment is defined as an operation that stores, prepares, packages, serves, vends, or otherwise provides food for human consumption as follows: a restaurant, retail food stores, satellite or catered feeding location, catering operation if the operation provided food directly to a consumer or to a conveyance used to transport people, market, vending locations, self-serve food market, conveyance used to transport people, institution, or food bank; and that relinquishes possession of food to a consumer directly, or indirectly through a delivery service such as home delivery of grocery store orders or restaurant takeout orders, or delivery service that is provided by common carriers; a restaurant; a grocery store; an operation that is conducted in a mobile, roadside, stationary, temporary, or permanent facility or location; group residence, outfitter operations, bed and breakfast extended and bed and breakfast food establishments; where consumption is on or off the premises; and regardless of whether there is a charge for the food and as further defined under Title 25 Texas Administrative Code, §228.2(57).

At this time your City is just over 40 establishments limitation, and we will begin the process of terminating the interlocal agreement. Once this agreement is approved by Commissioners Court, Brazoria County will send a letter to notify you of the termination and provide a copy of any existing permits. A list of current establishments in your municipal limits is attached for your review. We ask that you review these establishments and *respond by September 5th, 2021*, with any locations that you feel are not in your jurisdiction.

Once the Interlocal Agreement for regulation of retail food stores and food service establishments has been terminated, your city will be solely responsible for all permitting of food establishments within your city/village limits. This will also include temporary permits for events, celebrations and festivals within your municipal limits.

If you have any questions about this letter please contact Jodie Vice, Director, or Denise Posey, Supervisor, at the Brazoria County Environmental Health Department.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Denise Posey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Denise Posey, BS, RS, DR, CEO
Health Inspector – Supervisor
Brazoria County