



COUNTY of GALVESTON
COUNTY COURTHOUSE

722 MOODY AVENUE 2nd FLOOR GALVESTON, TEXAS 77550
Phone: 409-770-5562 FAX: 409-770-5560

December 8, 2025

Honorable Mark Henry,
Honorable County Commissioners' Court
Galveston County Courthouse
Galveston, Texas 77550

Re: Order Granting Discretionary Exemption Under Local Government Code §262.024 –
Procurement of Licensed Airplane Pilot and Licensed Aviation Mechanic Services

Gentlemen:

Local Government Code §262.024 authorizes the Commissioners Court to grant discretionary exemptions from the standard competitive bidding requirements when certain conditions are met. These exemptions are intended to allow for efficient procurement of specialized services that are necessary for the operation of county functions but are not readily available through traditional bidding processes.

The County requires the services of a **licensed airplane pilot** and a **licensed aviation mechanic** to support official county operations involving air travel and aircraft maintenance. These services are highly specialized, requiring professional licensure, technical expertise, and compliance with federal aviation regulations.

Justification

- These services require **specialized professional skills and licensure** that cannot be adequately obtained through general competitive bidding.
- Exemption ensures **continuity of operations** and compliance with aviation safety regulations.
- Immediate procurement is necessary to avoid disruption of county functions that rely on air travel and aircraft availability.

The Commissioners Court's order granting this discretionary exemption under Local Government Code §262.024 authorizes the procurement of the above services without competitive bidding. This action ensures that the County secures qualified, licensed professionals to meet its aviation needs in a timely and compliant manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Veronica Van Horn".

Veronica Van Horn
Legal Services Manager

ORDER GRANTING DISCRETIONARY EXEMPTIONS

On this, the 8th day of December 2025, the **Commissioners' Court of Galveston County, Texas**, convened in a regular scheduled meeting with the following members thereof present:

Mark Henry, County Judge
Darrell A. Apffel, Commissioner, Precinct No. 1
Joe Giusti, Commissioner, Precinct No. 2
Hank Dugie, Commissioner, Precinct No. 3
Robin Armstrong, MD, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4; and
Dwight Sullivan, County Clerk

when the following proceedings, among others, were had, to-wit:

Whereas, Section 262.024, Local Government Code, allows a contract for the purchase of items and an exemption from the requirement established by Section 262.023 if the commissioners court, by order, grants the exemption; and

Whereas, Galveston County requires specialized services of a licensed airplane pilot and a licensed aviation mechanic to effectively support the operations of the Galveston County Mosquito Control program, which is critical for public health and safety; and

Whereas the services provided by a licensed airplane pilot and aviation mechanic are not readily available through competitive bidding processes due to the specialized nature of the services and the expertise required; and

Whereas, the Commissioners' Court of Galveston County, Texas, wishes to authorize a discretionary exemption under Local Government Code Section 262.024 (a)(4) for the services of a licensed **airplane pilot** and a licensed **aviation mechanic** recognized as professional services requiring specialized training, certification, and expertise.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED BY THE COMMISSIONERS' COURT OF GALVESTON COUNTY, TEXAS THAT:

1. The Commissioners Court of Galveston County, Texas, determines that the engagement of such services is necessary to support county operations and ensure the safe and effective use of county-owned aircraft, approves and authorizes a discretionary exemption under Local Government Code Section 262.024 (a)(4); and
2. The licensed airplane pilot shall be responsible for piloting aircraft used in mosquito control operations, while the aviation mechanic shall be responsible for the maintenance and repair of said aircraft to ensure safety and compliance with all applicable regulations; and

3. This exemption shall be effective immediately upon the passage of this Order and shall remain in effect until the completion of the necessary services or until further action by the Commissioners Court; and
4. A copy of this Order shall be maintained in the Purchasing Department.

Upon Motion Duly Made and Seconded, the above **Order** was passed on this 8th day of December 2023.

Attest:


Dwight D. Sullivan, County Clerk


Darrell A. Apffel, Comm., Pct. #1


Joe Giusti, Comm., Pct. #2

County of Galveston, Texas

By:


Mark A. Henry, County Judge


Hank Dugie, Comm., Pct. #3

Absent


Robin Armstrong, MD, Comm., Pct. #4