*NOTE: The following text should be placed on the letterhead of the individual veterinary practice and tailored to fit each specific emergency order in place within the jurisdiction in which the bearer is located. This form should only be used in compliance with your jurisdiction’s closure order(s) and only if your jurisdiction includes veterinary services as a business that can continue to offer essential services during the closure period. As of March 24, 2020, the Governor of Texas has not issued an order to restrict travel or require sheltering in place. However, many municipalities and counties may have issued shelter-in-place orders. If you have questions, call TVMA at 512-452-4224 or email info@tvma.org.*

***COVID-19 Essential Employee Authorization Letter***

(Insert date)

This letter confirms that (Insert name) is an employee on staff at (Insert practice), a veterinary services facility, and is therefore exempt from any restrictions placed on work or travel during the COVID-19 emergency.

The County/City of (Insert County/City) in the State of Texas has directed that residents shelter at their place of residence except for essential activities, to provide or perform essential governmental functions or to operate essential businesses.

- Veterinary practices have been deemed essential businesses or healthcare operations that provide essential and critical services, and, as such, employees are permitted to travel to work at our facility during this time.

- Additionally, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has determined that “*animal agriculture workers including those employed in veterinary health*” are performing an essential government service or activity, thus providing a basis for exemption from the shelter-in-place requirement and supporting critical federal infrastructure sectors as defined by the Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

For employment verification, please call the following number: (Insert phone number).

Sincerely,

Practice Owner or Manager