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**Judge Hoppy Haden to Open Bars In Caldwell County**  
**October 9, 2020 | Caldwell County, Texas | Press Release**

On Wednesday, Governor Greg Abbott issued an Executive Order to allow certain bars and similar establishments to operate at 50% capacity from permission from the County Judge. The Governor's Executive Order also increases the occupancy levels for all business establishments other than bars to 75%.

Effective October 14, 2020, Caldwell County Judge Hoppy Haden has elected to allow bars or similar establishments to operate with in-person service, provided that the businesses follow the recommended minimum standard health protocols. Under the newest order, dance floors at bars and similar establishments must remain closed. Consistent with protocols for restaurants, all patrons must be seated while eating or drinking and must wear masks when they are not seated at a table. Additionally, tables must be limited to six individuals or less and all establishments must follow specific curfew guidelines. The COVID-19 safety protocols will be enforced through spot-checks by law enforcement and County officials. If an establishment is not following the protocols established by Governor Abbott, it will be closed by the County Judge until further notice.

Opening bars does not mean that COVID-19 is no longer a threat. Caldwell County residents are still susceptible to the virus. As bars and similar businesses begin to open, we must all remain vigilant and show personal responsibility to protect ourselves and our community members. Please continue to observe recommended and common-sense safety practices in all public places.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, likely belonging to Judge Hoppy Haden, is located at the bottom left of the page.