

INTRODUCTION:

On December 7, 2022, Governor Greg Abbott required all state agencies to ban the video-sharing application TikTok from all state-owned and state-issued devices and networks over the Chinese Communist Party's ability to use the application for surveilling Texans. Governor Abbott also directed the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) to develop a plan providing state agencies guidance on managing personal devices used to conduct state business. Following the issuance of the Governor's directive, the 88th Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 1893, which prohibits the use of covered applications on governmental entity devices.

This policy applies to all City of Brazos Country full- and part-time employees, contractors, paid or unpaid interns, and other users of government networks. All City of Brazos Country employees are responsible for complying with this policy.

COVERED APPLICATIONS ON GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR LEASED DEVICES

The City of Brazos Country will identify, track, and manage all government-owned or -leased devices including mobile phones, tablets, laptops, desktop computers, or any other internet-capable devices to:

- a. Prohibit the installation of a covered application.
- b. Prohibit the use of a covered application.
- c. Remove a covered application from a government-owned or -leased device that was on the device prior to the passage of S.B. 1893 (88th Leg, R.S.).
- d. Remove an application from a government-owned or -leased device if the Governor issues a proclamation identifying it as a covered application.

The City of Brazos Country will manage devices by unannounced observation and inspection of devices by the mayor or any council member at least two times per year.

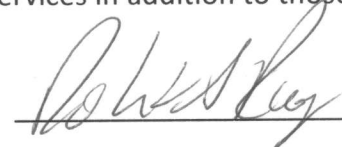
To provide protection against ongoing and emerging technological threats to the government's sensitive information and critical infrastructure, DPS and DIR will regularly monitor and evaluate additional social media applications or services that pose a risk to this state.

DIR will annually submit to the Governor a list of social media applications and services identified as posing a risk to Texas. The Governor may proclaim items on this list as covered applications that are subject to this policy.

If the Governor identifies an item on the DIR-posted list described by this section, then City of Brazos Country will remove and prohibit the covered application.

City of Brazos Country may also prohibit social media applications or services in addition to those specified by proclamation of the Governor.

Approved by vote of City Council on 17th of October, 2024



Robert S. Ray, Mayor