

**DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY
ORDER OF THE CHAIR OF THE HARRIS COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has placed the State of Georgia and the citizens of Harris County, Georgia in an on-going and imminent danger;

WHEREAS, the Governor of Georgia on March 14, 2020 declared a Public Health state of emergency for the State of Georgia and thereafter has issued multiple executive orders; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-3-28, political subdivisions are authorized and empowered to make, amend, and rescind such orders, rules, and regulations as may be necessary for emergency management purposes and to supplement the carrying out of Articles 1 through 3 of Chapter 3 of Title 38 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated;

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020, the Chair of the Harris County Board of Commissioners declared a local emergency, thereby activating the Harris County Emergency Management Agency's Emergency Operations Plan;

WHEREAS, in the judgment of the Chair of the Harris County Board of Commissioners, with advice and consent from the Harris County Board of Commissioners, there continues to exist emergency circumstances located in Harris County requiring extraordinary and immediate actions for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Harris County; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2020, the Governor of Georgia issued an Executive Order, effective 6:00 P.M. April 3, 2020 to expire at 11:59 P.M. on April 13, 2020;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DECLARED, pursuant to the authority vested in me by local and state law, that a local state of emergency continues to exist and expand throughout Harris County, Georgia and shall continue until the conditions requiring this declaration are abated.

IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED:

- (1) The intent of this Order is to ensure that the citizens located in Harris County, Georgia shelter in place in their places of residence to the maximum extent possible, while enabling essential services, necessary travel, minimum basic operations, and critical infrastructure to continue to slow the spread of COVID-19 to the maximum extent possible.
- (2) All citizens and residents of Harris County shall comply with the requirements and restrictions of the Executive Order N. 04-02-20 of the Governor of Georgia effective April 3, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. A copy of said Executive Order is attached.
- (3) As provided in the Executive Order of April 2, 2020, the following businesses or professions in Harris County must cease in-person operations and close to the public between April 3, 2020 and April 13, 2020:
 - a. Bars, nightclubs, gyms, fitness centers, bowling allies, theaters, live performance venues, operators of amusement parks, dine in-services at restaurants and private social clubs (exceptions: take-out; curbside pick-up; delivery; and dine-in services at hospitals, healthcare facilities, nursing homes, or other long-term care facilities), estheticians (e.g., waxing, threading, eyelash extensions, cosmetic treatments) hair designers, body art studios (commonly known as tattoo parlors), beauty shops and salons (including home beauty shops and salons), barber shops (including home barber shops), cosmetology schools, hair design schools, barbering schools, esthetics schools, nail care schools, and licensed massage therapists.

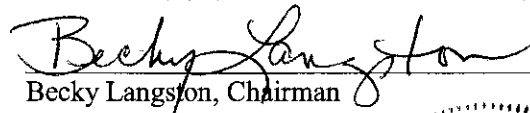
All other entities may continue to operate subject to specific restrictions of the Executive Order of April 2, 2020.

- b. All eating establishments, private social clubs and dining rooms shall be closed and shall not serve indoor or sit-down meals. Restaurants capable of providing delivery, take-out or drive through services may do so and cease in-house dining. No sales or dispensing of alcoholic beverages shall be permitted by delivery, take out or drive-thru services, except by those restaurants licensed to sell beer and wine for on-premises consumption during the effective date of the Declaration of Emergency may be authorized to sell only sealed, unopened bottles or cans of beer or wine for take-out consumption off premises in conjunction with a take-out meal.
- (4) All houses of worship shall strive for density reduction in all services, whether schedule or based upon a life event such as a funeral or baptism, and wherever practical shall practice social distancing. House of worship are further encouraged to use social media or other video outlets to broadcast worship services. Religious services and funerals likely to be attended by more than ten (10) individuals should be cancelled, rescheduled, or modified to comply with the provisions and intent of this Order.
- (5) Funeral homes shall likewise strive for density reduction in all activities and shall ensure vehicles used to transport families shall be thoroughly cleaned between uses in accordance with CDC guidelines. Graveside services of ten (10) or less participants are highly encouraged.
- (6) The Harris County Government and Courthouse shall remain open for all essential government and judicial offices and constitutional officers located therein to perform any necessary or essential functions provided by law, rule, or regulation subject to the conditions imposed by the Executive Order of April 3, 2020. Harris County shall limit public access to the Courthouse and other governmental offices in order to mitigate the possible spread of COVID-19 and for the safety of those conducting business in the courthouse.
- (7) This Order shall be implemented beginning at 6:00 P.M. on Friday, April 3, 2020 and shall remain in place until Monday, April 13, 2020. This Order may thereafter be renewed by the Chairman of the Harris County Board of Commissioners for a subsequent period, so long as the public health emergency persists.
- (8) The previous Harris County Declaration of Local Emergency made pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-2-28 of March 24, 2020 is hereby repealed in its entirety and this Declaration of Local Emergency is substituted in lieu thereof.
- (9) Section 2-54 A. County Business, Section 2-54 B. Public Works Contracts and Section 2-54 C. Purchasing of the Harris County Emergency Management Ordinance are implemented.

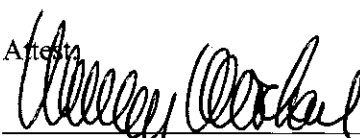
This Order is made pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 38-2-28 and shall be filed with the Clerk of Harris County.

SO ORDERED this 3rd day of April, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.

HARRIS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Becky Langston, Chairman

Attest:


Nancy D. McMichael, County Clerk

