

# Macon County



## **SUPPLEMENTAL PROCLAMATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY FOR MACON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

### **Section 1.**

Whereas a Proclamation of State of Emergency was made for Macon County, North Carolina, on March 17, 2020, a copy of which is attached hereto and the same is incorporated herein by reference. Since making such Proclamation of State of Emergency, additional information has become available to Macon County Emergency Management Coordinator concerning COVID-19 which warrants him taking additional emergency steps in accordance with the Emergency Management Ordinance for the County of Macon.

### **Section 2.**

Whereas, the coronavirus ("COVID-19") is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death and is a new strain of coronavirus previously unidentified in humans and can spread from person to person; and

Whereas, in response to the global spread of the virus and the disease it causes and the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a global pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

Whereas, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared the ongoing COVID-19 a pandemic of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant an emergency declaration for all states, tribes, territories and the District of Columbia; and

Whereas, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services ("NCDHHS") confirmed the number of cases in COVID-19 in North Carolina continues to rise; and

Whereas, The Governor of North Carolina by Executive Order 116 declared a State of Emergency for the State of North Carolina on March 10, 2020; and

Whereas, The Governor of North Carolina has issued other Executive Orders and may issue other such Executive Orders including orders prohibiting or restricting the operation of business establishments, the congregation of people as well as the movement of people in public places; and

Whereas, in consultation with health care professionals and based upon guidance

provided, arrangements must be made immediately to take such actions as are deemed necessary and appropriate to ensure that residents and visitors in Macon County remain safe and secure; and

Whereas, the Macon County Board of County Commissioners have determined that an emergency exists as defined by N.C. General Statutes 166A-19.3 (6).

Now, therefore, pursuant to County Ordinance 31.05, Chapter 166A-19.22 of the North Carolina General Statutes and Article 36A Chapter 14 of the General Statutes, the Macon County Board of Commissioners have determined that a State of Emergency exists in the County of Macon.

**Section 3.** The Macon County Board of Commissioners therefore do hereby confirm and proclaim the existence of a State of Emergency in the County of Macon.

The Macon County Board of Commissioners further proclaim that this Supplemental Proclamation of a State of Emergency does not apply within the municipal limits of the following municipal governments:

Town of Franklin; and

Town of Highlands

**Section 4.** The Macon County Emergency Management Coordinator has advised that pursuant to the Emergency Management Ordinance for the County of Macon he is imposing the following emergency regulations to be in place until the Macon County Board of Commissioners and the Macon County Emergency Management Coordinator can have full and meaningful discussion of the needed regulations concerning COVID-19 and the Macon County Board of Commissioners can otherwise fully consider and take action by Ordinance to implement such regulations:

- A. All county law enforcement, county employees, and all other emergency management personnel shall work with the Macon County Emergency Management Coordinator and their respective department heads to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of any emergency ordinances and the provisions of the Macon County Emergency Operations Plan.
- B. Mass gatherings of persons in groups of more than 10 people are prohibited effective 6:00 p.m, Thursday, March 26, 2020.
  - i. A mass gathering is defined as any event or convening that brings together more than 10 people in a single room or single space at the same time, such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, theater, or any other confined indoor or outdoor space. This includes parades, fairs, and festivals;
  - ii. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a mass gathering does not include normal operations at airports, medical facilities, and shopping centers, where more than ten (10) persons are gathered. It does not include office environments, factories, grocery stores, and retail establishments;
  - iii. Notwithstanding the foregoing, childcare facilities are permitted to remain

open pursuant to guidance from the NC Division of Health and Human Services Division of Child Development and Early Education; and

- iv. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a mass gathering does not include Essential Governmental Functions.
- C. It is hereby unlawful to sell or rent or offer to sell or rent any goods or services which are consumed or used as a direct result of an emergency or which are consumed or used to preserve, protect, or sustain life, health, safety, or economic well-being of persons or property with the knowledge and intent to charge a price that is unreasonably excessive under the circumstances or engage in any price gouging practices as defined by General Statutes;
- D. Effective Friday, March 27, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., all lodging facilities including hotels, motels, resorts, inns, guest houses, bed and breakfasts, campgrounds, RV Parks, vacation cabins, home rentals, and any and all rentals or leases through other rental programs or places where the rentals or leases are for use of less than twenty-eight (28) days in duration, or the rentals or leases are for more than twenty-eight (28) days in duration but are not occupied on a consistent basis, in Macon County, North Carolina, less the Town of Highlands and the Town of Franklin shall be closed EXCEPT as provided by the exemptions as hereinafter set forth:
- i. Work-Related Exemptions: This closure does not apply if a rental or lease or extended overnight accommodation is due to work here in Macon County for business, medical, construction, emergency services or other related services. In this situation, the employee staying at the lodging facility should have their employer provide their work-related identification badge or a letter from the employer stating the purpose of the work to be performed in Macon County and the expected duration of the stay;
  - ii. Homeless Shelter Exemption: This closure does not apply to lodging facilities housing needed to house the homeless from Macon County in an emergency related to the COVID-19 Response;
  - iii. Emergency Facility Exemption: This closure does not apply to a lodging facility if used as an emergency facility to assist with the COVID-19 Response;
  - iv. Exemption: Rentals less than seven (7) days which are subject to Macon County Public Food and Lodging Inspection which serves as the principal residence of the person occupying the same.
- E. All passengers and crew members arriving at the Macon County Airport will be

screened by Macon County Personnel designated by the Macon County Emergency Management Coordinator who have been properly trained to conduct the same or other individuals who have been designated by the Macon County Emergency Management Coordinator who have been properly trained to conduct the same for COVID-19 symptoms including fever. Anyone screened who is symptomatic or presents with a fever will be referred to an appropriate medical professional and shall be subject to Quarantine and/or Isolation Orders by the Macon County Health Director in accordance with applicable North Carolina State Law to limit exposure to our residents and prevent a hardship on our healthcare system.

- F. All persons whose point of departure originates from outside the area of Macon County in an area of “community spread”, which currently includes the States of New York, New Jersey, Washington, and Florida, and which will also include other States which are subsequently designated areas of “community spread”, and who enter into Macon County for the sole purpose of relocating temporarily into an area of less community spread, shall be subject to Quarantine and/or Isolation Orders by the Macon County Health Director in accordance with applicable North Carolina State Law and are hereby specifically requested to self-quarantine or self-isolate themselves, as appropriate, for a period of fourteen (14) days to limit exposure to our residents and prevent a hardship on our healthcare industry.

**Section 5.** Executive Orders issued and amended by the Governor of North Carolina including orders prohibiting or restricting the operation of business establishments, the congregation of people as well as the movement of people in public places and including but shall not be limited to Executive Orders Numbers 116, 117, 118, 119 and 120, copies of which are attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference, will be enforced by local law enforcement officers or other agencies as appropriate.

**Section 6.** In coordination with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and other appropriate agencies, all persons are urged to maintain social distancing approximately six (6) feet away from other people whenever possible, to continue to practice proper hygiene and follow the recommendations of the CDC concerning staying at home, except to get medical care, if one has mild illness, and to not visit public areas.

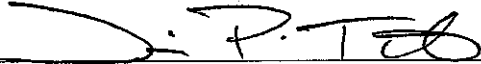
**Section 7.** Violations of the Regulations set forth hereinabove shall constitute a violation of the Emergency Management Ordinance for the County of Macon and may be prosecuted and punished in accordance therewith or as otherwise provided by the Laws of the State of North Carolina.

**Section 8.** This proclamation shall become effective immediately and shall remain in effect until amended or rescinded.

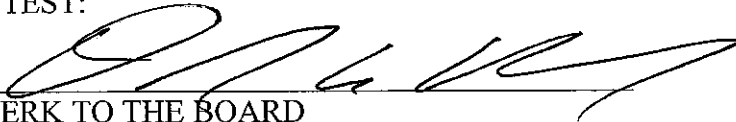
**Section 9.** The regulations set forth hereinabove shall be reviewed and re-evaluated by the Macon County Board of County Commissioners at its next Regular Meeting on Tuesday, April 14, 2020, to determine whether or not there remains a continued need for

some or all of such regulations or whether some or all of the same can be eliminated.

Proclaimed and adopted by the Macon County Board of Commissioner by a 4 to 1  
vote this the 26th day of March, 2020, at 6 P.M.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES TATE  
CHAIRMAN  
MACON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK TO THE BOARD

