

## **BROWARD COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S EMERGENCY ORDER 20-01**

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19, a respiratory illness caused by a virus that spreads rapidly from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, constitutes a clear and present threat to the lives, health, welfare, and safety of the people of Broward County;

**WHEREAS**, on March 1, 2020, Governor DeSantis declared a Public Health Emergency as a result of COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, on March 9, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-52, declaring a State of Emergency as a result of COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, I declared a Local State of Emergency; on March 11, 2020, the Mayor of Miami-Dade County declared a Local State of Emergency; and on March 13, 2020, the Mayor of Palm Beach County declared a Local State of Emergency;

**WHEREAS**, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the spread of COVID-19 to be a global pandemic;

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a national emergency concerning COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, on March 17, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-68, prohibiting the sale of alcoholic beverages at certain establishments and placing certain limitations on gatherings for bars, restaurants, and beaches;

**WHEREAS**, there is no vaccine or drug currently available to combat COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") and the Florida State Department of Health recommend implementation of community mitigation strategies to increase containment of the virus, including cancellation of large gatherings and social distancing of at least six (6) feet between persons in smaller gatherings;

**WHEREAS**, limitations on gatherings and the use of social distancing to prevent transmission of COVID-19 are especially important for people who are over sixty (60) years old and people with chronic health conditions because those populations are at a higher risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19. However, it appears that everyone, regardless of age or health condition, is threatened by COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, the tri-county area of South Florida, comprised of Miami-Dade County, Broward County, and Palm Beach County, is a contiguous community with both commercial and cultural continuities, and both Broward County and Miami-Dade County have emerged as clusters of positive COVID-19 cases;

**WHEREAS**, on March 19, 2020, Miami-Dade County enacted an Emergency Order imposing restrictions on all nonessential business and services;

**WHEREAS**, the public health emergency created by COVID-19 will not be limited to one county or municipality in the South Florida area;

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, the Broward County Board of County Commissioners authorized me to take any appropriate and necessary action to protect the health and safety of Broward County residents and visitors in connection with COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, this Emergency Order is necessary because of the propensity of the virus to spread person to person and also because the virus is physically causing property damage due to its proclivity to attach to surfaces for prolonged periods of time;

**WHEREAS**, the continuing operation of essential businesses is necessary to provide essential goods and services to the public; and

**WHEREAS**, this Emergency Order is necessary to protect the lives, health, welfare, and safety of the County's residents from the devastating impacts of this pandemic,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bertha Henry, the Broward County Administrator, pursuant to my emergency authority under Section 8-53 of the Broward County Code of

Ordinances, as well as the authorities granted to me by the Declaration of Emergency issued by Governor DeSantis in Executive Order 20-52, by Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, by the Board of County Commissioners, and by the Broward County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, hereby order as follows:

Section 1. This Emergency Order is supplemental and in addition to the Executive Orders issued by Governor DeSantis, including Executive Orders 20-70 and 20-71. This Emergency Order applies to incorporated and unincorporated areas within Broward County, but has no application outside of Broward County.

Section 2. All nonessential retail and commercial business locations (meaning all that are not expressly deemed essential as stated in Section 3 below) are ordered closed except to the extent necessary to perform Minimum Basic Operations. "Minimum Basic Operations" means the minimum activities necessary to maintain the value of inventory, preserve plant and equipment condition, ensure security, process payroll and employee benefits, and facilitate employees working remotely, provided such businesses shall practice, and ensure persons interacting with and within such businesses practice, social distancing and all other measures as advised by the CDC.

Section 3. The following retail and commercial businesses are deemed essential and existing retail and commercial business locations of these businesses may remain open, but shall practice, and ensure persons interacting with and within such businesses practice, social distancing and all other measures as advised by the CDC:

a. Except to the extent precluded by the Governor's Executive Order 20-72 or any subsequent Executive Order, healthcare providers and public health operations, including but not limited to: hospitals; doctors' and dentists' offices; urgent care centers, clinics, and rehabilitation facilities; physical therapists; mental health professionals; psychiatrists; therapists; research and laboratory services; blood banks, medical cannabis facilities; medical equipment, devices, and other healthcare manufacturers and

suppliers; reproductive health care providers; eye care centers; home healthcare services providers; substance abuse providers; medical transport services; and pharmacies;

b. Grocery stores, farmers' markets, farm and produce stands, supermarkets, food banks, convenience stores, and other establishments primarily engaged in the retail sale of canned food, dry goods, fresh fruits and vegetables, baby products, pet supply, liquor, fresh or frozen meats, fish, and poultry, and any other household consumer products (such as cleaning and personal care products). This authorization to remain open includes stores that sell groceries and also sell other non-grocery products, and products necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operations of residences and other structures;

c. Businesses engaged in food cultivation, including farming, livestock, and fishing;

d. Businesses that provide food, shelter, social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals;

e. Newspapers, television, radio, and other media services;

f. Gas stations, new and used automobile dealerships, and auto-supply, auto-repair, and related facilities;

g. Banks and related financial institutions, including insurance firms, but excluding pawn shops;

h. Hardware, gardening, and building material stores;

i. Contractors and other tradesmen, building management and maintenance (including janitorial companies servicing commercial businesses), home security firms, fire and water damage restoration, public adjusters, appliance repair personnel, exterminators, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences and other structures;

j. Businesses primarily providing mailing, logistics, pick-up, and shipping services, including post office boxes;

k. Private colleges, trade schools, and technical colleges, but only as needed to facilitate online or distance learning, perform critical research, or perform essential functions, and university, college, or technical college residence halls, but only to the extent needed to accommodate students who cannot return to their homes;

l. Laundromats, dry cleaners, and laundry service providers;

m. Restaurants and other facilities that prepare and serve food, but subject to the limitations and requirements of the Governor's Executive Orders 20-68, 20-70, and 20-71. Schools and other entities that typically provide free food services to students or members of the public may continue to do so on the condition that the food is provided to students or members of the public on a pick-up and takeaway basis only. Schools and other entities that provide food services under this exemption shall not permit the food to be eaten at the site where it is provided, or at any other gathering site under their control;

n. Businesses that primarily supply office products needed for people to work from home (but not including businesses that primarily sell or lease furniture);

o. Businesses that primarily supply other essential businesses, as stated in this Emergency Order, with the support or supplies necessary to operate, and which do not interact with the general public, including cybersecurity firms (but not including businesses that primarily sell or lease furniture);

p. Businesses that primarily ship or deliver groceries, food, goods, or services directly to residents;

q. Airlines, taxis, and other private transportation providers providing transportation services via automobile, truck, boat, bus, or train;

r. Businesses engaged in providing home-based care for seniors, adults, or children;

s. Assisted living facilities, nursing homes, adult day care centers, and home-based and residential settings for adults, seniors, children, and/or people with disabilities or mental illness;

t. Businesses providing professional services, such as legal or accounting services, to the extent those services are necessary to respond to legally mandated activities and such services cannot be performed as permitted in Section 4 below;

u. Landscape and pool care businesses, including residential landscape and pool care services;

v. Childcare facilities providing services that enable employees exempted in this Emergency Order to work as permitted. To the extent possible, childcare facilities should operate under the following conditions: Childcare must be carried out in stable groups of 10 or fewer (inclusive of childcare providers for the group); children and childcare providers shall not change from one group to another; if more than one group of children is cared for at one facility, each group shall be in a separate room. Groups shall not mix or interact with each other. All play equipment used by one group of children must be cleaned and sanitized before use by another group of children. Any child exhibiting symptoms consistent with COVID-19 illness shall not be allowed to stay in the childcare facility;

w. Businesses operating at any airport, seaport, or other government facility, except as provided in the Governor's Executive Order 20-71, which requires all restaurants and food establishments licensed under Chapters 500 and 509 to suspend on-premises food and alcohol consumption, and except as to businesses operating from Broward County facilities as to which separate directives have or will be issued;

x. Logistics providers, including warehouses, trucking, consolidators, fumigators, and handlers;

y. Telecommunications providers, including sales of computer or telecommunications devices and the provision of home telecommunications;

- z. Businesses engaged in the provision of propane or natural gas;
- aa. Businesses engaged in the provision of office space and administrative support necessary to perform any of the above-listed activities;
- bb. Open construction sites, irrespective of the type of building;
- cc. Businesses providing architectural, engineering, or land surveying services, but only with regard to ongoing construction projects in which construction has already commenced and provided that such businesses operate in full compliance with all measures advised by the CDC regarding social distancing;
- dd. Factories, warehouses, manufacturing facilities, bottling plants, or other industrial distribution and supply chain facilities used for essential products and industries for the U.S. domestic market;
- ee. Waste management services, including business engaged primarily in the collection and disposal of waste;
- ff. Private and municipal marinas and boat launches, docking, fueling, marine supply, and other marina services;
- gg. Hotels, motels, other commercial lodging establishments, and temporary vacation rentals, subject to the limitations stated in the Governor's Executive Order 20-70. Hotels, motels, and other commercial lodging establishments shall not accept new reservations for persons other than Essential Lodgers. "Essential Lodgers" are defined as: (1) healthcare professionals; (2) first responders; (3) National Guard members; (4) law enforcement; (5) state or federal government employees; (6) airline crewmembers; (7) patients; (8) patients' families; (9) journalists; (10) others providing direct services in response to COVID-19; (11) displaced residents or visitors; (12) persons utilizing hotels as transitional living arrangements; (13) persons sheltering in hotels due to domestic violence; (14) hotel employees, service providers, and contractors; or (15) individuals who, for any reason, are temporarily unable to reside in their home due to exigent circumstances;

- hh. Veterinarians and pet boarding facilities;
- ii. Mortuaries, funeral homes, and cemeteries including funeral and cremation services;
- jj. Firearm and ammunition supply stores;
- kk. Businesses providing services to any local, state, or federal government, pursuant to a contract with such government and provided such services relate directly to a governmental response to the COVID-19 crisis;

ll. Any business that employs five (5) or fewer persons, including management/ownership, where the employees do not come in regular contact with the general public in the regular course of business and the business can conduct its business in a manner that complies with the recommended social distancing and other requirements of previous executive orders, except to the extent inconsistent with any Executive Order or regulation issued by the Governor of Florida, the state, or any federal authority;

mm. Electrical production and distribution services; and

nn. Moving, storage, and relocation services.

Section 4. Notwithstanding the foregoing and in addition to any permitted Minimum Basic Operations, all retail and commercial businesses may perform remote work so that a business's employees may interact with each other and/or with customers solely through electronic or telephonic means, and deliver services or products via only electronic means or mailing, shipping, or delivery services;

This order does not affect or limit the operations of Broward County, any public utility, any municipality, the Broward County School District, the North Broward Hospital District, the South Broward Hospital District, any other local government entity in Broward County, or any State or Federal office or facility.

Section 5. This order does not limit the number of persons who may be physically present and performing services on-site related to the operations of an



essential business except as expressly set forth herein or otherwise governed by any State or Federal order or regulation. All such persons are required to the full extent practicable to operate in full compliance with all measures advised by the CDC including practicing social distancing such as keeping six (6) feet between persons and limiting group size to less than ten (10) people.

Section 6. This order does not limit religious services at any location, but all persons performing or attending religious services are urged to fully comply with all measures advised by the CDC including limiting gatherings to no more than ten (10) people and practicing social distancing of at least six (6) feet between persons.

Section 7. Applicability.

The provisions of this Emergency Order shall serve as minimum standards, and in no way modify any power possessed by municipalities within Broward County to impose more stringent standards within their jurisdictions. This Emergency Order shall apply to retail and commercial businesses based upon their regular course of their business as of March 21, 2020; any change to an entity's scope of business after March 21, 2020, shall not modify the characterization of the entity as essential or nonessential.

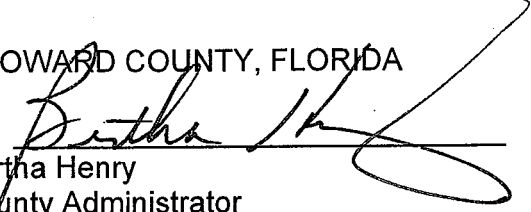
Section 8. Severability.

Any provision(s) within this Emergency Order that conflict(s) with any state or federal law or constitutional provision, or conflict(s) with or are superseded by a current or subsequently-issued Executive Order of the Governor or the President of the United States, shall be deemed inapplicable and deemed to be severed from this Emergency Order, with the remainder of the Emergency Order remaining intact and in full force and effect. To the extent application of some or all of the provisions of this Emergency Order is prohibited on the sovereign land of a federally or state recognized sovereign Indian tribe, such application is expressly excluded from this Emergency Order.

Section 9. Effective Date; Duration.

This order shall be effective as of 12:01 a.m. on Monday, March 23, 2020. This order shall expire upon the expiration of the existing State of Local Emergency, as same may be extended by subsequent order or declaration, unless earlier terminated by subsequent Emergency Order.

BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

By:   
Bertha Henry  
County Administrator

RECEIVED AND FILED in the Records, Taxes and Treasury Division on this 22 day of March, 2020, at 4:54 p.m.