

**EXECUTIVE ORDER OF THE HILLSBOROUGH
COUNTY EMERGENCY POLICY GROUP
DECLARING A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY
IN RESPONSE TO A COUNTY WIDE THREAT FROM
THE COVID-19 VIRUS**

Upon motion by _____ **Commissioner Kimberly Overman** _____, seconded by
_____ **Andy Ross, Temple Terrace** _____, the following Executive Order was adopted by
a vote of 8 to 0; _____ voting NO:

WHEREAS, the State of Florida and Hillsborough County are experiencing an imminent threat to the personal health and welfare of the residents of Hillsborough County due to the outbreak of COVID-19 in Hillsborough County and several other counties within the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and presents itself with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) previously declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern, and has now declared the COVID-19 outbreak to be a Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, On March 1, 2020 the Governor of the State of Florida issued Executive Order Number 20-51 declaring a public health emergency in the State of Florida due to reported cases of COVID-19 in the State; and

WHEREAS, On March 9, 2020 Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order Number 20-52 declaring that a state of emergency exists throughout the State due to the spread of COVID-19 and its imminent threat to the health and welfare of the citizens of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Division of Emergency Management has been directed to execute the State's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and other response, recovery, and mitigation plans necessary to cope with the emergency; and

WHEREAS, Hillsborough County has experienced cases, and suspected cases, of COVID-19 within the County; and

WHEREAS, Hillsborough County must take timely emergency measures due to (1) the heightened potential for the further spread of the virus adversely affecting the health and welfare of residents and visitors within the County, (2) the length of time required to put emergency plans and responses into action, and (3) the length of time required to acquire and prepare adequate supplies and facilities to respond and treat COVID-19 patients; and

WHEREAS, certain additional specialized equipment and personnel may be required to adequately respond to the needs of citizens; and

WHEREAS, other measures may have to be taken in order to mitigate the potential for causing further threatening conditions within the County; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and the Hillsborough County Emergency Management Ordinance (codified as Chapter 22, Article I, Sections 22-19 through 22-30, Hillsborough County Code of Ordinances and Laws), authorizes Hillsborough County to declare a state of local emergency; and

WHEREAS, Section 22-22, of the Hillsborough County Code, specifically authorizes the Emergency Policy Group with the power to declare that a state of emergency exists; and

WHEREAS, a state of emergency declared under the authority of Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and the Hillsborough County Emergency Management Ordinance, shall have a duration of no more than seven days, renewable for further periods of no more than seven days; and

WHEREAS, in order to properly prepare emergency response staff and equipment, it is prudent to have a local emergency declaration in place.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EMERGENCY POLICY GROUP OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN A MEETING ASSEMBLED THIS 12th DAY OF MARCH, 2020 THAT:

1. The imminent health threat of COVID-19, poses a serious threat to the health and welfare of the people of Hillsborough County, Florida, and that a state of local emergency is hereby declared effective immediately for the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Hillsborough County.
2. The provisions of Chapter 22, Article I, Sections 22-19 through 22-30, Hillsborough County Code of Ordinances and Laws, and the emergency provisions of the Hillsborough County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan shall be implemented at the discretion of the Emergency Policy Group and the County Administrator in consultation with the Director of Emergency Management in order to support and assist the Hillsborough County Health Department, the Florida Health Department, and the Florida Office of Emergency Management.
3. The Hillsborough County Health Department is hereby appointed the lead advisory agency during the course of this emergency.
4. The emergency management powers of the Emergency Policy Group, as set out in

section 22-23 of the Hillsborough County Emergency Management Ordinance, not already implemented by this Order, are hereby delegated to the County Administrator.

5. The County Administrator is authorized to exercise all powers designated in section 22-24 of the Hillsborough County Emergency Management Ordinance including the waiver of the procedures and formalities otherwise required of the County by law or ordinance pertaining to:
 - a. Performance of public work and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community;
 - b. Entering into contracts;
 - c. Incurring obligations;
 - d. Employment of permanent and temporary workers;
 - e. Utilization of volunteer workers;
 - f. Rental of equipment;
 - g. Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials, and facilities;
 - h. Appropriation and expenditure of public funds; and
 - i. Appropriation or requisition of merchandise, goods, equipment, services, property, or personnel needed to alleviate the emergency with reimbursement paid at a later date. Reimbursement shall be at the rate charged during the 90-day period immediately preceding the emergency unless there is good and sufficient reason to reimburse at a different rate;
6. The County Administrator is authorized to convene all major health organizations in Hillsborough County to develop and coordinate, in conjunction with the Department of Health, the management of testing related to the COVID-19 event.
7. The County Administrator is further empowered to carry out all emergency responsibilities delegated by the Governor to the political subdivisions of the State.
8. All State and/or local business licensees, vendors, merchants, and any other person operating a retail business in Hillsborough County, is hereby prohibited from charging more than the normal average retail price, as defined in Section 22-23 (b) (1) g, of Hillsborough County Code, for any goods, materials, or services sold during the duration or any extension of this declaration of emergency.
9. Pursuant to Section 252.38(a), F.S., the County has jurisdiction over and serves the entire county. Therefore, all municipalities within Hillsborough County shall coordinate their preparation, response, or mitigation actions with the County Administrator, the Office of Emergency Management, and the County Health Department.

10. Nothing in this Executive Order provides the County Administrator or the Emergency Policy Group the authority to regulate the use or possession of firearms contrary to the provisions of Chapter 790, Florida Statutes.
11. The State of Florida Executive Orders 20-51 and 20-52 are hereby adopted and incorporated into this Executive Order.
12. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon adoption, and shall remain in effect for seven days unless extended or rescinded by this Emergency Policy Group.

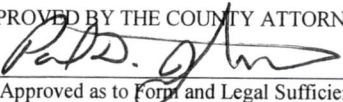
**STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH**

I, **PAT FRANK**, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Ex Officio Clerk of the Board of the County Commissioners, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing Executive Order is a true and correct copy of an Executive Order adopted by the Emergency Policy Group of Hillsborough County, Florida, in its special meeting of March 12, 2020, as the same appears of record in Minute Book 526 of the Public records of Hillsborough County, Florida.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this 12th day of March, 2020.

PAT FRANK
Clerk of Circuit Court

BY: 
Deputy Clerk

APPROVED BY THE COUNTY ATTORNEY
By: 
Approved as to Form and Legal Sufficiency



STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 20-51

(Establishes COVID-19 Response Protocol and Directs Public Health Emergency)

WHEREAS, Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and presents with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

WHEREAS, in late 2019, a new and significant outbreak of COVID-19 emerged in China; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and

WHEREAS, in response to the recent COVID-19 outbreak in China, Iran, Italy and South Korea, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") has deemed it necessary to prohibit or restrict non-essential travel to or from those countries; and

WHEREAS, in response to the recent COVID-19 outbreak in Japan, the CDC has advised older travelers and those with chronic medical conditions to avoid nonessential travel and all travelers to exercise enhanced precautions; and

WHEREAS, the CDC currently recommends community preparedness and everyday prevention measures be taken by all individuals and families in the United States, including voluntary home isolation when individuals are sick with respiratory symptoms, covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue and disposal of the tissue immediately thereafter, washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers with 60%-95%

alcohol if soap and water are not readily available and routinely cleaning frequently touched surfaces and objects to increase community resilience and readiness for responding to an outbreak; and

WHEREAS, two individuals in the State of Florida tested presumptively positive for COVID-19, including a resident of Manatee County and a resident of Hillsborough County; and

WHEREAS, the CDC currently recommends mitigation measures in communities with COVID-19 cases, including staying at home when sick, keeping away from others who are sick and staying at home when a household member is sick with respiratory disease symptoms or if instructed to do so by public health officials or a health care provider; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and appropriate to take action to ensure that COVID-19 remains controlled and that residents and visitors in Florida remain safe and secure;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RON DESANTIS, as Governor of Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Article IV, Section (1)(a) of the Florida Constitution, and all other applicable laws, promulgate the following Executive Order to take immediate effect:

Section 1. Because of the foregoing conditions, I direct the State Health Officer and Surgeon General, Dr. Scott Rivkees, to declare a public health emergency in the State of Florida, pursuant to his authority in section 381.00315, Florida Statutes. The State Health Officer is authorized and directed to use his judgment as to the duration of this public health emergency.

Section 2. In accordance with section 381.0011(7), Florida Statutes, I direct the State Health Officer to take any action necessary to protect the public health.

Section 3. I direct the State Health Officer to follow the guidelines established by the CDC in establishing protocols to control the spread of COVID-19 and educate the public on prevention.

Section 4. In accordance with section 381.0011(7), Florida Statutes, I designate the Florida Department of Health as the lead state agency to coordinate emergency response activities among the various state agencies and local governments. The State Health Officer, or his designee, shall advise the Executive Office of the Governor on the implementation of these emergency response activities.

Section 5. All actions taken by the State Health Officer with respect to this emergency before the issuance of this Executive Order are ratified.

Section 6. The Florida Department of Health will actively monitor, at a minimum, all persons meeting the definition of a Person Under Investigation (“PUI”) as defined by the CDC for COVID-19 for a period of at least 14 days or until the PUI tests negative for COVID-19. Active monitoring by the Florida Department of Health will include at least the following:

- A. Risk assessment within 24 hours of learning an individual meets the criteria for a PUI.
- B. Twice-daily temperature checks.

Section 7. The Florida Department of Health, pursuant to its authority in section 381.00315, Florida Statutes, will ensure that all individuals meeting the CDC’s definition of a PUI are isolated or quarantined for a period of 14 days or until the person tests negative for COVID-19.

Section 8. I hereby direct the Florida Department of Health to make its own determinations as to quarantine, isolation and other necessary public health interventions as permitted under Florida law.

Section 9. I direct all agencies under the direction of the Governor to fully cooperate with the Florida Department of Health, and any representative thereof in furtherance of this Order.

Agencies not under the direction of the Governor are requested to provide such assistance as is required.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed, at Tallahassee, this 1st day of March, 2020.



RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

2020 MAR -1 PM 9:31

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 20-52

(Emergency Management - COVID-19 Public Health Emergency)

WHEREAS, Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and presents with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

WHEREAS, in late 2019, a new and significant outbreak of COVID-19 emerged in China; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization previously declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and

WHEREAS, in response to the recent COVID-19 outbreak in China, Iran, Italy, Japan and South Korea, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) has deemed it necessary to prohibit or restrict non-essential travel to or from those countries; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, I issued Executive Order number 20-51 directing the Florida Department of Health to issue a Public Health Emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, the State Surgeon General and State Health Officer declared a Public Health Emergency exists in the State of Florida as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020, I directed the Director of the Division of Emergency Management to activate the State Emergency Operations Center to Level 2 to provide coordination and response to the COVID-19 emergency; and

WHEREAS, as of March 9, 2020, eight counties in Florida have positive cases for COVID-19, and COVID-19 poses a risk to the entire state of Florida; and

WHEREAS, the CDC currently recommends community preparedness and everyday prevention measures be taken by all individuals and families in the United States, including voluntary home isolation when individuals are sick with respiratory symptoms, covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue and disposal of the tissue immediately thereafter, washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, using of alcohol-based hand sanitizers with 60%-95% alcohol if soap and water are not readily available and routinely cleaning frequently touched surfaces and objects to increase community resilience and readiness for responding to an outbreak; and

WHEREAS, the CDC currently recommends mitigation measures for communities experiencing an outbreak including staying at home when sick, keeping away from others who are sick, limiting face-to-face contact with others as much as possible, consulting with your healthcare provider if individuals or members of a household are at high risk for COVID-19 complications, wearing a facemask if advised to do so by a healthcare provider or by a public health official, staying home when a household member is sick with respiratory disease symptoms if instructed to do so by public health officials or a health care provider; and

WHEREAS, as Governor, I am responsible for meeting the dangers presented to this state and its people by this emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RON DESANTIS, as Governor of Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Article IV, Section (1)(a) of the Florida Constitution, Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and all other applicable laws, promulgate the following Executive Order to take immediate effect:

Section 1. Because of the foregoing conditions, I declare a state of emergency exists in the State of Florida.

Section 2. I designate the Director of the Division of Emergency Management (“Director”) as the State Coordinating Officer for the duration of this emergency and direct him to execute the State’s Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and other response, recovery, and mitigation plans necessary to cope with the emergency. Additionally, I designate the State Health Officer and Surgeon General as a Deputy State Coordinating Officer and State Incident Commander.

Pursuant to section 252.36(1)(a), Florida Statutes, I delegate to the State Coordinating Officer the authority to exercise those powers delineated in sections 252.36(5)-(10), Florida Statutes, which he shall exercise as needed to meet this emergency, subject to the limitations of section 252.33, Florida Statutes. In exercising the powers delegated by this Order, the State Coordinating Officer shall confer with the Governor to the fullest extent practicable. The State Coordinating Officer shall also have the authority to:

A. Seek direct assistance and enter into agreements with any and all agencies of the United States Government as may be needed to meet the emergency.

B. Designate additional Deputy State Coordinating Officers, as necessary.

C. Suspend the effect of any statute, rule, or order that would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay any mitigation, response, or recovery action necessary to cope with this emergency.

D. Enter orders as may be needed to implement any of the foregoing powers; however, the requirements of sections 252.46 and 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, do not apply to any such orders issued by the State Coordinating Officer; however, no such order shall remain in effect beyond the expiration of this Executive Order, to include any extension.

Section 3. I order the Adjutant General to activate the Florida National Guard, as needed, to deal with this emergency.

Section 4. I find that the special duties and responsibilities resting upon some State, regional, and local agencies and other governmental bodies in responding to the emergency may require them to suspend the application of the statutes, rules, ordinances, and orders they administer. Therefore, I issue the following authorizations:

A. Pursuant to section 252.36(1)(a), Florida Statutes, the Executive Office of the Governor may suspend all statutes and rules affecting budgeting to the extent necessary to provide budget authority for state agencies to cope with this emergency. The requirements of sections 252.46 and 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, do not apply to any such suspension issued by the Executive Office of the Governor; however, no such suspension shall remain in effect beyond the expiration of this Executive Order, to include any extension.

B. Each State agency may suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders or rules of that agency, if strict compliance with the provisions of any such statute, order, or rule would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency. This includes, but is not limited to, the authority to suspend any and all statutes, rules, ordinances, or orders which affect leasing, printing, purchasing, travel, and the condition of employment and the compensation of employees. For the purposes of this Executive Order, "necessary action in coping with the emergency" means any emergency mitigation, response, or recovery action: (1) prescribed in the State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan ("CEMP"); or (2) ordered by the State Coordinating Officer. The requirements of sections 252.46 and 120.54, Florida Statutes, shall not apply to any such suspension issued by a State agency; however, no such suspension shall remain in effect beyond the expiration of this Executive Order, to include any extensions.

C. In accordance with section 465.0275, Florida Statutes, pharmacists may dispense up to a 30-day emergency prescription refill of maintenance medication to persons who reside in an area or county covered under this Executive Order and to emergency personnel who have been activated by their state and local agency but who do not reside in an area or county covered by this Executive Order.

D. In accordance with section 252.38, Florida Statutes, each political subdivision within the State of Florida may waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of the political subdivision by law pertaining to:

1) Performance of public work and taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of the community;

2) Entering into contracts; however, political subdivisions are cautioned against entering into time and materials contracts without ceiling as defined by 2 CFR 200.318(j) or cost plus percentage contracts as defined by 2 CFR 200.323(d);

3) Incurring obligations;

4) Employment of permanent and temporary workers;

5) Utilization of volunteer workers;

6) Rental of equipment;

7) Acquisition and distribution, with or without compensation, of supplies, materials, and facilities; and,

8) Appropriation and expenditure of public funds.

E. All State agencies responsible for the use of State buildings and facilities may close such buildings and facilities in those portions of the State affected by this emergency, to the extent necessary to meet this emergency. I direct each State agency to report the closure of any State

building or facility to the Secretary of the Department of Management Services. Under the authority contained in section 252.36, Florida Statutes, I direct each County to report the closure of any building or facility operated or maintained by the County or any political subdivision therein to the Secretary of the Department of Management Services. Furthermore, I direct the Secretary of the Department of Management Services to:

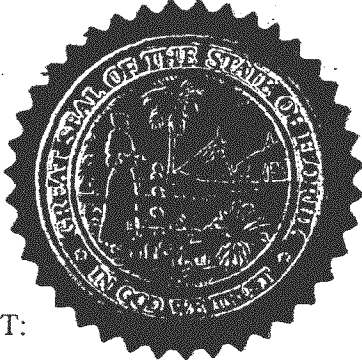
- 1) Maintain an accurate and up-to-date list of all such closures; and,
- 2) Provide that list daily to the State Coordinating Officer.

Section 5. I find that the demands placed upon the funds appropriated to the agencies of the State of Florida and to local agencies are unreasonably great and the funds currently available may be inadequate to pay the costs of coping with this emergency. In accordance with section 252.37(2), Florida Statutes, I direct that sufficient funds be made available, as needed, by transferring and expending moneys appropriated for other purposes, moneys from unappropriated surplus funds, or from the Budget Stabilization Fund.

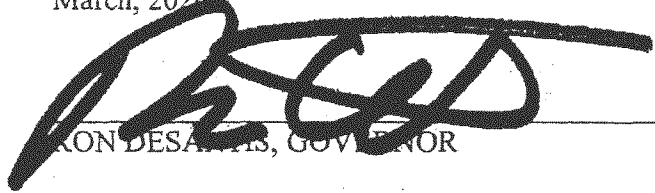
Section 6. All State agencies entering emergency final orders or other final actions in response to this emergency shall advise the State Coordinating Officer contemporaneously or as soon as practicable.

Section 7. Medical professionals and workers, social workers, and counselors with good and valid professional licenses issued by states other than the State of Florida may render such services in Florida during this emergency for persons affected by this emergency with the condition that such services be rendered to such persons free of charge, and with the further condition that such services be rendered under the auspices of the American Red Cross or the Florida Department of Health.

Section 8. All activities taken by the Director of the Division of Emergency Management and the State Health Officer and Surgeon General with respect to this emergency before the issuance of this Executive Order are ratified. This Executive Order shall expire sixty days from this date unless extended.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed, at Tallahassee, this 9th day of March, 2020.


RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


SECRETARY OF STATE

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