

County of Monroe
The Florida Keys



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mayor Heather Carruthers, District 3
Mayor Pro Tem Michelle Coldiron, District 2
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MONROE COUNTY DECLARATION OF LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, Section 252.38(3)(a), Florida Statutes, gives authority to political subdivisions to declare and enact a State of Local Emergency for a period of up to seven (7) days, thereby waiving the procedures and formalities otherwise required of the political subdivision by law; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, the Governor of Florida issued Executive Order Number 20-51 directing the State Health Officer and Surgeon General to declare a Public Health Emergency due to the discovery of COVID-19/novel Coronavirus in Florida; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, the Governor of Florida issued Executive Order Number 20-52, declaring a State of Emergency for the State of Florida related to COVID-19/novel Coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19/novel Coronavirus poses a health risk to Monroe County residents, particularly elderly residents; and

WHEREAS, responding to the threat posed by COVID-19/novel Coronavirus may require extraordinary and immediate actions by Monroe County in order to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of county residents and visitors;

WHEREAS, Section 11-1 of the Monroe County Code vests the Mayor with the authority to declare a state of local emergency for a renewable period of up to seven (7) days; and

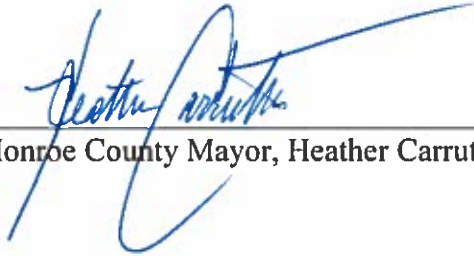
WHEREAS, Sections 17-27 through 17-36 of the Monroe County Code govern the requirements for issuing public assembly permits for gatherings in excess of 250 people.

THEREFORE, as Mayor of Monroe County, I hereby declare a State of Local Emergency, effective as of 5:33 PM March 15, 2020, that will continue for seven (7) days thereafter unless cancelled before that period of time. This Local State of Emergency includes all of Monroe County. Pursuant to this Declaration,

1. Each municipality in Monroe County is authorized and encouraged to declare its own state of emergency and to initiate protective measures necessary to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of residents and visitors.
2. County Administrator Roman Gastesi and Emergency Management Director Shannon Weiner are hereby authorized to coordinate with the Monroe County Health Department, as the local lead agency, and other State and local authorities to take whatever prudent actions are reasonably necessary to effectuate such orders and to otherwise protect the health, safety, and welfare of the community.

3. Monroe County Emergency Management Director Shannon Weiner shall serve as the incident commander who shall have the authority to issue emergency directives having the force of law. She may delegate that authority to her Deputy Director. Emergency Directives shall have the full force of law as specified in Section 11-3 of the Monroe County Code.
4. The Emergency Operations Center shall be activated to a Level II.
5. The Planning Director is ordered to cease issuing any public assembly permits and to revoke any issued public assembly permits for events that will take place during this state of local emergency.
6. The public is encouraged to follow the Centers for Disease Control's guidance on social distancing and other appropriate practices including not attending large gatherings of people.

Signed: _____


Monroe County Mayor, Heather Carruthers

Date: March 15, 2020 Time: 5:33pm

MONROE COUNTY ATTORNEY
APPROVED AS TO FORM:


ROBERT B. SHILLINGER, JR.
COUNTY ATTORNEY

Date 3-15-2020