

**AMENDED PROCLAMATION DECLARING A CONTINUING  
LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY IN LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA  
PROCLAMATION NO. 2020-5  
COVID-19**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida (the "Board") has adopted the Emergency Management Ordinance, being codified in Chapter 2, Article VIII of the Code of Laws of Leon County, Florida (the "Ordinance"), providing authorization for the Board or its designee to declare an extension to a previously issued declaration of local State of Emergency; and

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

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, President Donald J. Trump and the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") issued the "15 Days to Slow the Spread" guidance advising individuals to adopt far-reaching social distancing measures; and

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, Leon County declared a local State of Emergency effective March 16, 2020, at 2:00 p.m., for a period of seven days, to authorize continued coordination with state and other local authorities and to take all actions necessary to address the threat of a public health crisis resulting from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, Leon County extended the local State of Emergency effective March 23, 2020, at 2:00 p.m., for a period of seven days; and

WHEREAS, to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the 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 feet between persons in smaller gatherings; and

WHEREAS, federal and state health officials have indicated that they expect additional cases of COVID-19 to be identified in the coming days and, based on the highly contagious nature of COVID-19, additional person-to-person transmission is likely; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-83, directing the Surgeon General and State Health Officer to issue a public health advisory to all persons over 65 years of age and to persons with certain underlying medical conditions that place them high risk of serious illness from COVID-19 to urge them to stay home and take measures to limit their exposure to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 20-83 further directed the Surgeon General and State Health Officer to issue a public health advisory against all social or recreational gatherings of 10 or more people; and

WHEREAS, public health experts have urged governmental entities to mandate stricter adherence to CDC social distancing guidelines of at least six feet between persons to mitigate further spread of COVID-19, and

WHEREAS, multiple local jurisdictions in Florida and Georgia have declared local states of emergency to address the threat of a public health crisis resulting from COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, should COVID-19 spread in Leon County at a rate close to what some other communities in Florida and Georgia are experiencing it would strain local resources and capabilities; and

WHEREAS, on March 25, 2020, Leon County issued Amended Proclamation No. 2020-3; and

WHEREAS, on March 29, 2020, President Donald J. Trump announced that the “15-Days to Slow the Spread” guidelines will continue until April 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 30, 2020, Leon County issued Proclamation No. 2020-4; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-91, providing Safer at Home directives for all persons in Florida; and

WHEREAS, on April 2, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-92, which amended Executive Order 20-91; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 20-91, as amended by Executive Order 20-92, supersedes any conflicting official action or order issued by local officials in response to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of Executive Order 20-91, as amended by Executive Order 20-92, are effective at 12:01 a.m. on April 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, an Emergency as defined in the Ordinance continues to exist in Leon County; and

WHEREAS, a prompt and efficient response and recovery is necessary to safeguard lives and property affected by the Emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT to the authority conferred by Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and the Ordinance, as Chairman of the Leon County Board of County Commissioners, and pursuant to Section 2-306 of the Code of Laws of Leon County, after consultation with state and local authorities, I find as follows:

1. State of Emergency. A local State of Emergency continues to exist requiring immediate and expeditious action as a result of the threat of a public health crisis within Leon County and neighboring counties, and will continue to exist for a period of three days, effective 12:01 a.m. on April 3, 2020, in accordance with Section 2-307 of the Code of Laws of Leon County.

2. Safer at Home. All persons in Leon County are to abide by the Safer at Home directives issued by Governor DeSantis in Executive Order Number 20-91 and Executive Order 20-92, and any subsequent amendments or extensions issued thereto.


THIS PROCLAMATION authorizes the continued activation of the Leon County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and the exercise of all powers provided by Chapter 252, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 2, Article VIII of the Code of Laws of Leon County, Florida.

Dated this 2nd day of April, 2020.



LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: \_\_\_\_\_


  
Bryan Desloge, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners

ATTESTED BY:

Gwendolyn Marshall, Clerk of Court  
& Comptroller, Leon County, Florida

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
Leon County Attorney's Office

By: \_\_\_\_\_



By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Chasity H. O'Steen, Esq.  
County Attorney