

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA

EMERGENCY ORDER 2020 – 08

AN EMERGENCY ORDER ISSUED BY THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR OF BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA, MODIFYING AND RESCINDING *EMERGENCY ORDER 2020-01* (ISSUED MARCH 18, 2020) AND *EMERGENCY ORDER 2020-02* (ISSUED MARCH 23, 2020); REOPENING CERTAIN BRADFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, FACILITIES AND OFFICES; IMPLEMENTING ENHANCED SAFETY PROTOCOLS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PHASE 1 OF FLORIDA GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS' "SAFE. SMART. STEP-BY-STEP. PLAN FOR FLORIDA'S RECOVERY"; PURSUANT TO SECTION 252.38, *FLORIDA STATUTES*, AND THE PROCLAMATION, DATED MARCH 17, 2020, DECLARING A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY IN BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA.

WHEREAS, Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe respiratory illness that appears to occur through respiratory transmission; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared a public health emergency of international concern related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Department of Health and Human Services declared that a public health emergency exists nationwide as a result of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued *Executive Order 20-51*, the terms of which are incorporated herein, declaring that appropriate measures to control the spread of COVID-19 in the State of Florida are necessary, and therefore directed that a public health emergency be declared in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2020, the State of Florida Surgeon General and State Health Officer, by virtue of the Governor's *Executive Order 20-51* and Section 381.00315, *Florida Statutes*, issued a

Declaration of Public Health Emergency declaring that a public health emergency exists in the State of Florida; and

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis 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, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued *Executive Order 20-52*, the terms of which are incorporated herein, declaring a state of emergency for the State of Florida to address the public health emergency caused by the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald J. Trump declared a national emergency due to the spread of COVID-19 throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, given the foregoing, Bradford County Emergency Management Director Lt. Raymond Shuford issued a proclamation declaring a state of local emergency in Bradford County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 represents a threat to the public health, safety and welfare of Bradford County residents, employees and visitors; and

WHEREAS, as of the date of this proclamation, said *Executive Order 20-51* and said *Executive Order 20-52* continue in effect; placing all of Florida's 67 counties under a state of emergency; and

WHEREAS, Section 252.38, *Florida Statutes*, states that "safeguarding the life and property of [the County's] citizens is an innate responsibility of the governing body of each political subdivision of the state" and further grants to the County the power to provide for the health and safety of persons and property and to waive the procedures and formalities otherwise required of the County pertaining to taking whatever prudent action is necessary to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, the ongoing threat of the effects COVID-19 represents a severe and immediate threat to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Bradford County, Florida; and

WHEREAS, said severe and immediate threat to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Bradford County represents a true and active emergency; and

WHEREAS, a review of all relevant factors, including the information outlined herein, indicates that, although the effects of COVID-19 do and will continue to pose a severe threat to the entire State of Florida and specifically to Bradford County, Florida, there are positive indicators that the spread and severity of COVID-19 are in decline and that the resulting opportunity to recover Florida and Bradford County's economy by reopening returning to more normal operations is in the best interest of the citizens of the State of Florida and Bradford County; and

WHEREAS, on April 29, 2020, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis issued *Executive Order 20-112*, the terms of which are incorporated herein, which outlined and implemented Phase 1 of Governor DeSantis' "Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step. Plan for Florida's Recovery;" and

WHEREAS, said *Executive Order 20-112* provides an easing of the restrictions previously adopted and implemented through *Executive Order 20-91*, issued April 3, 2020 and outlines a plan for the reopening of Florida's businesses and government operations in a safe and measured manner; and

WHEREAS, said reopening of Florida's businesses and government operations in a safe and measured manner as outlined in said *Executive Order 20-112*, together with the "Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step. Plan for Florida's Recovery" provided by the Governor's Office and the State of Florida, Division of Emergency Management following the issuance of *Executive Order 20-112*, provided an appropriate framework for a determination of the same by Bradford County; and

WHEREAS, on May 4, 2020, given the foregoing, Bradford County Emergency Management Director Lt. Raymond Shuford issued *Emergency Order 2020-07*, adopting and implementing Governor

DeSantis' *Executive Order 20-112* and said "Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step. Plan for Florida's Recovery" contained therein; and

WHEREAS, following the issuance by Governor DeSantis of *Executive Order 20-112* and the "Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step. Plan for Florida's Recovery" contained therein and the issuance by Emergency Management Director Lt. Raymond Shuford of *Emergency Order 2020-07*, it has become reasonable and prudent to reopen certain Bradford County government buildings, facilities and offices to the public; and

WHEREAS, given the ongoing concerns related to COVID-19, it is further reasonable and prudent to reopen said Bradford County government buildings, facilities and offices under the protection of enhanced safety protocols as outlined more specifically in Governor DeSantis' *Executive Order 20-112* and the "Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step. Plan for Florida's Recovery" contained therein as well as those safety measures adopted and promulgated by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, in order to reopen said Bradford County government buildings, facilities and offices under the protection of said enhanced safety protocols, it is necessary to modify previously-issued *Emergency Order 2020-01* and *Emergency Order 2020-02*; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the citizens of Bradford County, Florida and in furtherance of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Bradford County, Florida that certain Bradford County government buildings, facilities and offices be reopened under enhanced safety protocols as contemplated in Florida Governor Ron DeSantis' *Executive Order 20-112* and the "Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step. Plan for Florida's Recovery" outlined therein.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority granted by Chapter 26, *Bradford County Code*, Chapter 252, *Florida Statutes*, and further pursuant to the authority provided in *Executive Order 20-51*, *Executive Order 20-52* and *Executive Order 20-91*, and further pursuant to the authority provided by the

Proclamation, dated March 17, 2020, declaring a state of local emergency in Bradford County, Florida and for the aforementioned and above-outlined reasons, the undersigned, LT. RAYMOND SHUFORD hereby:

- (1) Modifies and rescinds – to the extent they are in conflict with this emergency order – *Emergency Order 2020-01* (issued March 18, 2020) and *Emergency Order 2020-02* (issued March 23, 2020);
- (2) Reopens the following Bradford County government buildings, facilities and offices which were temporarily closed during the COVID-19 pandemic by *Emergency Order 2020-01* (issued March 18, 2020) and *Emergency Order 2020-02* (issued March 23, 2020):
 - (A) All parks including playgrounds, pavilions and other park facilities;
 - (B) The Bradford County Library; and
 - (C) All other Bradford County government offices EXCEPT the Bradford County Senior Center which shall remain closed to the public until further notice; and
- (3) Implements for all Bradford County government buildings, facilities and offices those enhanced safety protocols provided for in Phase 1 of Governor DeSantis’ “Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step. Plan for Florida’s Recovery” and as otherwise developed and promulgated by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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DULY ISSUED AND ORDERED by the Emergency Management Director of Bradford County, Florida, effective on the date and at the time indicated below.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA



By: LT. RAYMOND SHUFORD, as its
Emergency Management Director

May 4, 2020 at 12:01 A.M.

DATE / TIME