## NASSAU COUNTY EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 7 (Emergency Management – COVID-19)

**WHEREAS**, the Governor of the State of Florida has issued Executive Orders pursuant to the State Declared Emergency, that address actions as to activities within the State; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States, Donald Trump, declared a National State of Emergency due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners declared a Local Emergency pursuant to Chapter 252, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Nassau County Executive Orders #1, #2, and #6 addressed the beach areas and beach activities; and

WHEREAS, Order #2 prohibited motor vehicles on the beaches; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that allowing motor vehicles on the beach areas enables greater utilization of the beach areas; and

WHEREAS, the utilization of vehicles on the unincorporated areas of Nassau County are controlled by Senate Bill 1577 and the Final Judgment dated April 28, 1992; and

**WHEREAS**, the continued spacing and reduction of gatherings pursuant to the Center for Disease Control Guidelines is appropriate; and

WHEREAS, based on the limited space available for vehicular parking and driving on the beach and the current population in the County, restricting vehicle use to Nassau County residents only is in the best interests of the citizens of Nassau County; and

WHEREAS, restricting the vehicular use to Nassau County residents and active military personnel promotes a safer use for vehicles and pedestrians; and

WHEREAS, to better serve the citizens and the safety of the beach areas, vehicular access and parking should be as set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Endangered Species Act must be considered as it pertains to usage of the beach from May 1, 2020 through October 30, 2020.

**NOW, THEREFORE, MICHAEL S. MULLIN,** as Nassau County Manager, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Local State of Emergency and County Emergency Management Plan and with the consent of the Emergency Management Director, promulgate the following Executive Order to take immediate effect:

<u>Section 1.</u> This order supersedes Executive Orders #1, #2, and #6.

<u>Section 2.</u> Effective at 8:00 a.m., Friday, May 15, 2020, vehicular traffic may access designated areas set forth herein in the unincorporated areas of Nassau County. Vehicles may access the beach area from 8:00 a.m. each day of the week until 9:00 p.m. each day.

Section 3. The beach access for vehicles will be at Peters Point and Lewis Street. Scott Road shall remain closed to vehicular access for the term of the declaration of emergency as extended but shall be open for pedestrian access each day from 6:00 a.m. through 9:00 p.m. each day.

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<u>Section 4.</u> All motor vehicles shall exit the beach areas, in the unincorporated areas of Nassau County on or before 9:00 p.m. each day.

<u>Section 5.</u> No vehicles, except for law enforcement, County designated security, emergency and turtle patrol vehicles, or vehicles deemed necessary by the County Manager shall be allowed on the beach after 9:00 p.m. or before 8:00 a.m.

Section 6. Motor vehicles allowed on the beach within the unincorporated areas of Nassau County shall only be for Nassau County residents. The parking lots at Peters Point, Burney Park, Scott Road and "Dunes Club" walkover access shall be available for Nassau County residents and non-residents from 6:00 a.m. through 9:00 p.m. each day.

<u>Section 7.</u> All individuals that are allowed on the beach areas, subject to restrictions stated herein, shall adhere to the Center for Disease Control Guidelines. Said Guidelines prohibit more than ten (10) people gathering together and require distances of a minimum of six (6) feet from each individual.

<u>Section 8.</u> The Sheriff's Department and County designated security shall have the authority to issue orders to beach users violating the provisions of this order, including orders to remove themselves from the beach issued by the Sheriff's Department. Failure to remove oneself from the beach shall constitute a trespass and is a second-degree misdemeanor subject to a \$500.00 fine and/or sixty (60) days in jail.

<u>Section 9.</u> The County Manager, Sheriff or Emergency Management Director shall have the authority to issue further restrictions as to beach use and parking areas based upon conditions including, but not limited to, safety issues and tidal issues. Signage will be utilized, when possible, to notify users of the restrictions. Additional executive orders may be issued.

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<u>Section 10.</u> Motor vehicle regulations for on-beach driving and parking:

- Motor vehicles allowed on the beach shall be Nassau County residents only, with valid identification as set forth herein, or active duty military personnel, regardless of residence:
  - a. Proof of Nassau County residence shall require a valid Florida Driver's License by the driver or State of Florida identification card by an occupant of the vehicle, indicating a current Nassau County residence. The driver shall produce a valid Driver's License to the attendant or occupant shall produce a valid Florida identification card to the attendant. The attendant shall record the Driver's License number and/or identification card number and tag of the vehicle. Active military personnel shall produce a current military identification card that will be recorded by the attendant, as well as recording the tag number.
- (2) Motor vehicles shall only be allowed on the beach if they are all-wheel drive or four-wheel drive vehicles.
- (3) Motor vehicles shall only park in areas designated for parking.
  - a. Driving shall only occur from Peters Point north to the city limits; from Lewis Street north to the area marked by signage "No driving beyond this point" and south to the area marked by signage located in front of the Burney Park area. (See Exhibits "A" and "B" attached hereto).
  - b. Sheriff's Department, emergency vehicles, lifeguards, turtle patrol and other motor vehicles deemed essential by the County Manager may access the entire unincorporated beach area.

- (4) Motor vehicles shall only be allowed on the beach from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. each day.
- (5) The speed limit for motor vehicles on the beach is ten (10) miles per hour.
- (6) Parking shall not be permitted in front of the Peters Point and Burney Park parking areas. Motor vehicles shall not drive in front of Burney Park. Areas shall be appropriately marked for no parking. Motor vehicles entering at Peters Point and exiting at Peters Point shall remain within the designated driving lanes. (See Exhibits "A" and "B" attached hereto).
- (7) Failure to present the aforementioned documentation is a violation and the vehicle shall not enter the beach area. A vehicle that enters the beach without the driver providing the required documents shall be considered a trespass and subject the driver/operator and occupants to a second-degree misdemeanor subject to a \$500.00 fine and/or sixty (60) days in jail and removal of the vehicles. The vehicle may be towed and the operator/driver shall be responsible for costs and storage.
- (8) Motor vehicle entry onto the beach subjects each vehicle, including coolers and containers, to a search for alcoholic beverages, sealed or unsealed. Alcohol, sealed or unsealed, is prohibited on the beach and cannot be transported onto the beach in a motor vehicle.

<u>Section 11.</u> Alcoholic beverages, sealed or unsealed, are also prohibited in the beach parking lots of Peters Point, Burney Park, Scott Road and the "Dunes Club" parking area. The consumption of alcoholic beverages on the unincorporated beach areas or parking areas are prohibited. Section 12. The parking lots at Peters Point, Burney Park, Scott Road and "Dunes Club" shall open at 6:00 a.m. each day and close at 9:00 p.m. each day. All vehicles shall vacate the parking areas no later than 9:00 p.m. each day. The parking privilege subjects each vehicle to being searched, including coolers contained therein. Vehicles that remain in the parking between 9:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. are subject to being towed. The driver/operator shall be responsible for all costs, including storage.

Section 13. No vehicles larger than pick-up trucks are allowed in the parking areas of Peters Point, Burney Park, Scott Road or the "Dunes Club" parking lots, except for horse trailers as set forth herein.

Section 14. Horses are allowed on the beach subject to the following:

- (1) Horses are not allowed in the dunes or in the water, including sloughs.
- (2) Horses shall be under the control of the riders at all times.
- (3) Each horse shall be equipped with a manure catch bag. Manure is not to be discarded into the ocean or on the beach.
- (4) Each horse trailer must have a current license issued by animal control.Each licensee must have documentation of a Coggin's Test for all horses.
- (5) Licensees shall have a document that must be affixed to the horse trailer.
- (6) Horses shall enter and exit the beach from the Peters Point beach front park via the designated 30' wide vehicle drive aisle. Horses shall not be permitted in the no parking/no driving area of the beach located directly in front of the Peters Point beach front park. (See Exhibit "A" attached hereto).
- (7) Horse trailers are not permitted in the Burney Park parking area or Scott Road parking area.

- (8) Licensees shall park in designated areas in Peters Point between the hours of 6:00 a.m. through 9:00 p.m. each day.
- (9) There are three (3) designated parking areas within Peters Point. Said areas are marked.
- (10) Failure to park in a designated area is a violation and may cause revocation of the license. Failure to remove the truck and horse trailer, parked outside the designated area, constitutes a trespass and subjects the owner/operator to a second-degree misdemeanor. Subject to a \$500.00 fine and/or sixty (60) days in jail. In addition, the horse trailer and truck are subject to being towed and the owner/operator is subject to all costs and storage charges.

<u>Section 15.</u> Individuals or companies that provide chairs, umbrellas, boogie boards, etc. for use on the unincorporated beach areas may place said items on the beach within the unincorporated areas. Individuals or companies shall not rent items or conduct commercial activities within the beachfront parking areas.

<u>Section 16.</u> Dogs are allowed on the Atlantic Ocean beaches but must be under leash and under the control of the owner at all times.

<u>Section 17.</u> Commercial activities shall not occur within the beach front parking areas, except for the parking of horse trailers.

<u>Section 18.</u> No camping is permitted on the unincorporated beaches between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. No camping is allowed in parking areas of Peters Point, Burney Park,

Scott Road or the "Dunes Club". The no camping prohibition on the beach is in effect during turtle nesting season (5/1/2020 through 10/30/2020).

<u>Section 19.</u> The following definitions apply:

- <u>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE</u> A beverage containing more than one percent (1%) of alcohol by weight.
- (2) <u>BEACH</u> Includes the dry sand and wet sand areas within the unincorporated beaches.
- (3) <u>MOTOR VEHICLE</u> For beach access, automobiles that are all-wheel drive or fourwheel drive. For beachfront parking areas, automobiles and pick-up trucks. Does not include anything larger than a pick-up truck. Automobiles do not include four-wheelers or ATV's, except as authorized and deemed essential by the County Manager.
- (4) <u>CAMPING</u> Erection of a shelter (tent) for the purpose of sleeping; or lying upon a bedroll, blanket, or other protective garb for the purpose of sleeping.
- Section 20. Attached are exhibits that:
  - Depict the Peters Point access control/attendant's booth, 30' drive aisle, 560' of no parking area and 1,840' of driving/parking area. (Exhibit "A").
  - (2) American Beach access control/attendant's booth, 450' of no parking area and 2,550' of driving/parking area. (Exhibit "B").
  - (3) Peters Point route and parking area for horse trucks and trailers. (Exhibit "C").

<u>Section 21.</u> <u>PENALTY</u>: Violation of any section of this order will subject the violator to a second-degree misdemeanor, subject to a \$500.00 fine and/or sixty (60) days in jail. Motor vehicle usage is subject to the State laws such as, but not limited to, tickets for speeding in excess of the designated speed limit, reckless driving, careless driving, etc. Section 22. Motor vehicles entering the beach on the southern tip of Amelia Island are subject to State park regulations. Every owner/operator should familiarize themselves with the applicable rules.

Section 23. This order shall remain in effect during each seven (7) day emergency period and is automatically extended based upon the Board of County Commission's extension of the declared emergency.

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, 2020.

NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA

MICHAEL S. MULLIN County Manager

CONSENT:

/s/ Greg Foster

GREG FOSTER Emergency Management Director









Horses

