



TOWN OF FRANKLIN

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Franklin, North Carolina 28744
(828) 524-2516

EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION 2020-2 Town of Franklin, North Carolina

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authorities cited below, I the undersigned Mayor issued a Declaration of State of Emergency effective March 17, 2020 within the corporate limits of the Town of Franklin, due to the pandemic outbreak of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the above-described pandemic, I have determined that there is an imminent threat of, or existing conditions have caused or will cause, widespread or severe dangers for the safety of the public, and that authorities will be unable to maintain public order or afford adequate protection for lives; and

WHEREAS, Section 34.02 of the Town of Franklin Code of Ordinances provides that during a proclaimed state of emergency, the Mayor is empowered to prohibit or regulate certain conditions and activities, including the participation in or carrying on of any business activity, and the keeping open of places of business, places of entertainment, and any other places of public assembly.

WHEREAS, imposing the restrictions and prohibitions ordered herein is necessary to maintain order and protect public health, safety, and welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Mayor of the Town of Franklin, NC under Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes and Title III, Chapter 34, §§ 34.01-34.02 of the Town of Franklin Code of Ordinances:

Section 1. During the State of Emergency previously declared within the corporate jurisdiction of the Town of Franklin, all lodging facilities including hotels, motels, resorts, inns, guest houses, bed-and-breakfasts, campgrounds, RV parks, vacation cabins, home rentals, and any and all short-term rentals or leases within the said jurisdiction are ordered to be closed to the public. For purposes of this proclamation, the term 'short-term' shall mean for a term of less than twenty-eight (28) days in duration.

Section 2. Existing non-short-term rentals or leases that are continuously occupied are excluded from the operation of this declaration. The following persons and activities are further exempted:

- a. Employees and independent contractors of the Town, County of Macon, any provider of medical care, or government or public utility.
- b. Military, National Guard, or law enforcement personnel deployed and/or assigned to assist local agencies during the Local State of Emergency.
- c. Town residents who occupy a lodging facility due to circumstances that have rendered the person's usual place of residence uninhabitable.
- d. Anyone ordered quarantined within a lodging facility by an appropriate public health official.
- e. Homeless persons occupying a lodging facility prior to the effective date and time of this proclamation; use of lodging facilities needed to house the homeless of the Town of Franklin in an emergency related to the COVID-19 response.
- f. Use of a lodging facility if used as an emergency facility to assist with the COVID-19 response.

Section 3. Mass gatherings of persons in groups of more than 10 people are prohibited.

- a. A mass gathering is defined as any event or convening that brings together more than 10 people in a single room or single space at the same time, such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large

conference room, meeting hall, theater, or any other confined indoor or outdoor space. This includes parades, fairs, and festivals.

b. A mass gathering does not include normal operations at airports, medical facilities, and shopping centers, or other spaces where more than ten (10) persons are gathered. It does not include office environments, factories, grocery stores, and retail establishments that are otherwise permitted under currently applicable law.

c. Notwithstanding the foregoing, childcare facilities are permitted to remain open pursuant to guidance from the NC Division of Health and Human Services Division of Child Development and Early Education.

d. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a mass gathering does not include Essential Government Functions.

Section 4. Executive Orders issued and amended by the Governor of North Carolina including orders prohibiting or restricting the operation of business establishments, the congregation of people as well as the movement of people in public places, including but not limited to Executive Orders number 116, 117, 118, 119 and 120, will be enforced by local law enforcement officers or other agencies as appropriate.

Section 5. In coordination with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and other appropriate agencies, all persons are urged to maintain social distancing (approximately six(6) feet away from other people) whenever possible and to continue to wash hands, and practice proper respiratory etiquette (including coughing into elbow).

Section 6. It is recommended that all persons whose point of departure originates from outside the area of "community spread," currently including the states of New York, New Jersey, Washington, and Florida, and which shall also include other states which are subsequently designated areas of "community spread," and entering into the Town of Franklin for the sole purpose of relocating temporarily into an area of less substantial spread, shall be subject to Quarantine and/or Isolation Orders by the Macon County Health Director in accordance with applicable state law and are hereby specifically requested to quarantine or isolate themselves, as appropriate, for a period of fourteen(14) days to limit exposure to our residents and prevent a hardship for local infrastructure, including the healthcare industry.

Section 7. Violations of the regulations herein shall constitute a violation of Chapter 34 of the Town Code of Ordinances, and subject violators to penalties specified in §34.99 of the Code.

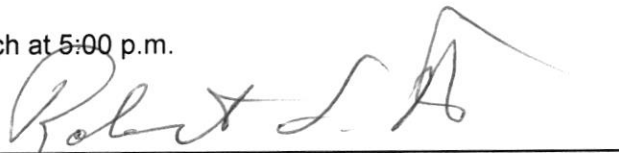
Section 8. I hereby order this proclamation: (a) to be distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; (b) to be filed with the Clerk to the Town Council and (c) to be distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this declaration.

Section 9. Section 1 of this declaration shall take effect at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 27th, 2020. The other sections of this proclamation are effective immediately, and shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded.

PROCLAIMED this the 26th day of March at 5:00 p.m.



Travis Tallent
Town Clerk



Robert S. Scott
Mayor