

Columbus County

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DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY TO COORDINATE PROTECTIVE ACTIONS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19 FIRST AMENDMENT ADDITIONAL PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2020, the Board of Commissioners determined that a State of Emergency as defined in Chapter 7 of the Columbus County Code of Ordinances exists in Columbus County, and now desires to further supplement said Declaration. The terms of this supplemental amendment are in addition to, not in lieu of, the March 24, 2020, Declaration; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of all persons to slow the spread of the coronavirus, and a unified response is optimal to do so; and

WHEREAS, the Columbus County Board of Commissioners, acting through the Chairman, hereby orders all county law enforcement officers, employees and all emergency management personnel to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the additional provisions of the county emergency ordinances, which are set forth below. This order and declaration is in addition to and concurrent with all public health control measures authorized in North Carolina General Statute 166A and the provisions of the March 24, 2020 Declaration of State of Emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County under Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes and Chapter 7 of the Columbus County Code of Ordinances:

Section 1. All public playgrounds, public playground equipment and exercise stations, public team sport facilities, public golf courses, and public gardens are hereby ordered to be closed and not used.

Section 2. The terms set forth in the March 23, 2020 Executive Order 120 and March 27, 2020 Executive Order 121 are hereby incorporated by reference into this Declaration and the businesses and facilities listed therein are hereby ordered to cease operations and close in compliance with the terms of that Executive Order.

Section 3. For the purposes of this Declaration, the following businesses shall be subject to the same restrictions as non-essential retail as defined in the North Carolina Executive Order 121 and shall close their facilities to the public. Those businesses are campgrounds, hotels, motels, and short-term lodging except as allowed by a governmental request to assist with the emergency response to Coronavirus or to provide lodging in support of the

supply and distribution of COVID-19 essential Businesses and Operations or in support of our county's COVID-19 emergency response and practices utilized to fight the virus or its spread. Extended stay hotels and campgrounds may continue to offer lodging for terms of no less than 28 days to persons who are presently on the premises but shall not enter into new leases or rentals.

Section 4. All public boat ramps will be closed for public use to place boats from trailer to water except for emergency response personnel.

Section 5. Pursuant to Section 13, Part 2, Chapter 7 of the Columbus County Code of Ordinances any person violating any prohibition or restriction imposed by proclamation during a State of Emergency shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable upon conviction by a fine not exceeding fifty dollars (\$50.00) or imprisonment not exceeding 30 days, as provided by G.S. 14-4.

Section 6. The County will be under a curfew from 10 p.m. until 5:00 a.m. except for healthcare emergencies, healthcare workers, emergency first responders, travel to or from work, or assistance with the emergency response to Coronavirus.

Section 7. I hereby order this declaration: (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 Clerk to the Board of Commissioners of Columbus County and (c) to be distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this declaration.

Section 8. This declaration shall take effect on April 1, 2020, at 4:00pm and shall remain in effect until April 30, 2020, unless modified or rescinded prior to said date.

DECLARED this the 30th day of March, 2020, at 4:00pm

P. Edwin Russ

P. Edwin Russ,
Chairman of the Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

June Hall

June Hall, Clerk to the
Columbus County Board of Commissioners

